

WALSALL CHRONICLE

Thursday, May 15, 2014

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Reunion

John and long-lost sister get together

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Appeal

£100,000 campaign to keep hall's organ

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Villa sale

Lerner wants £200m as he bows out

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Bridge to be rebuilt in £30m rail work

A RAIL bridge which dates back more than 100 years is to be rebuilt as part of £30 million plans for the electrification of the line.

The scheme in Walsall town centre is to be carried out in phases starting this autumn and will be completed by next summer.

The bridge over the rail line, which runs beneath Park Street, needs to be rebuilt for the electricity lines.

Network Rail insists the main shopping street will be open to business as usual and efforts will be made to minimise disruption.

It will be the latest phase of moves to electrify 15 miles of the Chase Line between Walsall, Hednesford and Rugeley Trent Valley.

Preparation work is due to get under way this autumn and finish by the end of November.

The process of rebuilding the bridge will begin next January and will be completed in four stages to allow Park Street to remain open for business.

The project will complete by the July and rail services will not be affected.

Liam Sumpter, of Network Rail, said: "Replacing this bridge is a significant piece of work and is essential as part of our plans to electrify the railway between Walsall and Rugeley."

Confidence over meals

EDUCATION bosses are confident free school meals will be available to all children aged four to seven from September as part of a Government scheme.

Walsall Council's catering service is working closely with schools to meet the Government's pledge to provide a meal for all four to seven-year-olds in state funded schools.

The council has been awarded £590,000 to distribute among schools, which have been able to submit requests for funding.

SHOCK OVER DOUBLE DEATH

By Laura Blyth

NEIGHBOURS have spoken of their shock after a recently separated couple were found dead at home in what police believe was a murder and suicide.

Hayley and David Stringer were discovered at their house in Hollemeadow Avenue, Blakenall, Walsall.

Police have confirmed the pair both died from stab wounds and said they are not looking for anyone in connection with the deaths.

The bodies of Mr Stringer, aged 32, and 29-year-old Mrs Stringer were found at 3.50am on Saturday following an emergency call and they were pronounced dead at the scene.

Their three children, Chloe, 11, Chelsea, eight, and Lottie, seven, were sleeping in the terraced house when officers arrived and have been informed.

Relatives and neighbours of the pair have spoken of their shock.

Scared

Annette Johnson, aged 60, who lived opposite the family and knew the mother well, said she was in shock. She also said she had heard a 'terrifying scream' just after midnight on Saturday morning.

The grandmother-of-11 said: "Just as I was nodding off I heard this scream. It sounded like a girl and it scared me."

She added: "I knew Hayley and the little girls used to play with my grandson. They were a lovely family. I was shocked when they split up. I found out on Facebook and then I saw she was in another relationship."

"Dave moved out a few weeks ago. We watched him move his stuff but he used to go back quite a lot to take the girls out."

"They moved in about three or four years ago. I spoke to Hayley if she popped in the shop next door. She used to go in wearing her onesie. I didn't have a lot to do with Dave. He was always working all the time but I would wave to him. Hayley was a lovely girl. You could have a laugh and a joke with her. She'd come in the house and



David Stringer – had moved out

have a cup of tea with me. I can't believe what has happened. They are never going to see their kids grow up or get married. It's horrible. You wouldn't think it would happen on your doorstep."

Neighbour Graham Johnson, 49, said: "I woke up and realised something had happened when the police were outside. I went to bed at 2am and didn't hear anything at all."

"I'm shocked. The woman who lives there was only a young girl. I spoke to her now and again. She had girls. It's a shame for the kids' sake."

Raman Patel, who runs Ram's Superstore in Hollemeadow Avenue, said: "I'm



Hayley Stringer – died from stabs

shocked. They used to come in the shop. They were nice people."

Mrs Stringer was a factory worker at Spanish-owned engineering firm Gestamp Automocion, Cannock. Mr Stringer worked for metal importing and distribution company Holme Dodsworth, Walsall.

Speaking on behalf of the family, Andrew Dutton, whose partner Lisa Ball is Mr Stringer's cousin, said: "We are just absolutely devastated, not just for David. Our prayers go out to Hayley's family, David's family and the kids. David was a lovely kid. He was very quiet, shy, hardworking and a devoted father."

Mrs Stringer's new partner, 19-year-old



The double death house in Blakenall



Matty Read – found the bodies

Matty Read, is understood to have discovered the bodies and called the emergency services.

Mr Read, who was at the house when officers arrived, is believed to be the 19-year-old initially arrested on suspicion of murder but has since been released without charge.

Detective Inspector Justin Spanner, from Force CID, said: "Hayley suffered multiple stab injuries and David died from a single stab wound. At this stage we strongly believe that this is a murder suicide."

"While we are still to establish the exact circumstances of what happened, we are currently not looking for anyone else in connection with the deaths."

Housing planned for former bakery site

UP TO 100 homes are poised to be built on the site of a former bakery which was once one of Walsall's biggest employers.

The plan is for the old Maple Leaf bakery, in Birchills, Walsall, which formerly operated as Harvestime Bakeries and employed hundreds of people.

An application has been made to Walsall Council to find out if an environmental impact assessment will be required prior to an outline planning application being submitted for the site in Raleigh Street.

In a letter lodged on behalf of applicant Shiptinvest No.1 Limited, planning director Guy Bailey said: "The site has been promoted for a number of years through the council's emerging policy and housing documents for residential development."

"The site is not specifically allocated in the Black Country Core Strategy, but does lie within one of the regeneration corridors."

The report said there had been potential for ground contamination but the potential risk to controlled waters and human health had been assessed as low to moderate by an initial environmental assessment.

An investigation was planned to assess the risk.

A bakery had been on the site since the 1800s.

Palace invite for June, 77

A MUSICAL director who was awarded the British Empire Medal has been invited to a Buckingham Palace garden party next Wednesday.

June Davenport, aged 77, of Allens Lane, Pelsall, received the award in the Queen's New Year's Honours list for her services to music and the community.

The great-grandmother helped launch Pelsall Ladies Choir in 1963 with seven women gathered around a piano in a living room.

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CONTACT US

Have you got a story or an event you want covered?

The Chronicle and Express & Star have a team of reporters cover Walsall who can help:

Deborah Hardiman: 01922 444318
marion.brennan@expressandstar.co.uk

Lisa O'Brien: 01922 444312
lisa.obrien@expressandstar.co.uk

Craig Hughes: 01922 444316
craig.hughes@expressandstar.co.uk

Adam Burling: 01922 444313
adam.burling@expressandstar.co.uk

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Sports:

Tel: 01902 319453 e-mail: chronsport@expressandstar.co.uk

Photographic

Tel: John Sambrooks 01902 319431

Advertising

Samantha Broad:
Tel: 01543 465331
E-mail: s.broad@expressandstar.co.uk

Property

Marguerita Finnegan
Tel: 01543 465337
E-mail: marguerita.finnegan@expressandstar.co.uk

Motoring:

Jayne La Hiff
Tel: 01543 465 344
E-mail: j.lahiffe@expressandstar.co.uk

Distribution:

Paul Jones
Tel: 01902 319990
E-mail: p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

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Early talks on replacing Gala Baths

WALSALL Gala Baths could close and be replaced by a new swimming pool and multi-storey car park complex, it has emerged.

Walsall Council is looking at creating more modern leisure facilities in the town centre as part of a partnership with a private car park operator.

Bosses have been looking at an unconfirmed site for the possible

complex, which would could see swimming and leisure provided at the base and car parking above.

Discussions have taken place and comes after the council had looked at the potential for a £1 million revamp of the outdated Gala Baths, which is more than 50 years old.

But this was subject to funding and comes as the cash-strapped council needs to make millions of

cuts this year. A 2,000 name petition was launched last year amid fears the leisure centre in Tower Street could shut.

Walsall Council leader Mike Bird confirmed that a new facility was something the authority was looking at and some discussions had taken place.

Council chiefs are remaining tight-lipped about the possible lo-

cation although say it would be in the town centre. Negotiations are at an early stage. Providing brine pool facilities similar to those at the Gala Baths will form part of the talks.

It is thought the complex would be predominantly funded through the car park operator.

Councillor Bird said: "The beneficiaries are we would look to secure the facility at little or no cost."

Hospital will have to make £10.7m savings

Flying the new flag for town



Glyn Marston and competition organiser Kalie Plant admired the six finalists

The winning design to become the flag of Willenhall be unveiled next month after more than 70 entries.

It will be unveiled on June 14 after judges whittled the designs down to a shortlist of six and the public cast their votes.

It will be launched at Willenhall Carnival with marathon runner and fundraiser Glyn Marston invited to do the honours at Willenhall Memorial Park. They will be available after the launch. Community website willenhallaywe.co.uk and Pound-

land launched the competition in February. Kalie Plant, of Willenhallaywe.co.uk, said: "We had no hesitation of putting Glyn forward for this occasion as the whole project has been about promoting Willenhall and putting Willenhall back on the map and what better way than by a local man Glyn.

"Many of you will know the hard work that Glyn has put into fundraising for many years by running over 100 marathons."

Mr Marston added: "I am so proud to be launching the flag for Willenhall."

Housing provider wins top award

A HOUSING provider has been named the greenest in the UK.

Walsall Housing Group was named Sustainable Landlord of the Year at the UK Housing Awards after putting in measures such as external wall insulation, heating systems and solar panels on many properties.

The awards recognise outstanding work by housing organisations to improve the lives of people.

Cliff Horrocks, director of asset management at whg, said: "We are delighted to win this award and to gain the title of being the UK's greenest landlord."

"Sustainability is at the core of our organisation so to have our achievements officially recognised with such a prestigious award is a real seal of approval. The award is a credit to all of the hard work put in right across the organisation"

The group said it was committed to completing work on thousands more properties. Its £30 million project for communal heating systems in all of its high rise blocks is under way.

Stuart Macdonald, editor of Inside Housing, said: "Whg has shown it is performing at the highest level."

Have your say over health

RESIDENTS can have their say on the experiences of health and social care services during a series of family fun events.

Healthwatch Walsall will be hosting events across the borough starting this month.

There will be an opportunity to find out about the work of Healthwatch Walsall while face painting, arts and crafts, nail art and demonstrations will be held.

An event is due to take place in the Saddlers Centre, Walsall, on May 31 between 11am to 3pm. Other dates will be announced.

Green funding

FUNDING for green-fingered community projects is on offer at the Green Funding Fair, organised by Walsall Allotment and Community Garden Forum at Goscote Greenacres, Goscote Lane. Email goscote-greenacres@walsall.gov.uk by Monday to register.

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Park's new skate site praised by users

A NEW £160,000 skate park has been hailed as a success after being opened in a Willenhall park.

Work on the feature at Willenhall Memorial Park was started last December and finished in February.

Walsall Council agreed to invest cash from the sale of Willenhall Leisure Centre into the skate park off Pinson Road.

Young people have been supported by Friends of Willenhall Memorial Park to campaign for better skating facilities.

Among those involved park was 22-year-old tattooist Aaron Lockley.

He said: "I came across Willenhall skate park when I moved back around the area when I was 17.

"Personally I think the new skate park is brilliant and the rest of the guys love it."

Councillor Sean Coughlan, chairman of the Friends of Willenhall Memorial Park, said: "The friends group had no hesitation in supporting the young people that use the park."

"They are a credit to our town and have set an excellent example to all young people across Walsall in how to campaign and lobby for funding to bring new facilities for the community."

Cash comes in after tragedy

A SURGE of donations has been made to the family of a hit-and-run victim who was knocked down on the way home from a night out.

Relatives of Jamey Coleman, aged 24, who was hit on the A5 Watling Street, Brownhills, at about 3.20am on March 30, have raised £752.

More than £250 flooded last week so far. Money will go to brain injury charity Headway.

Police have appealed for information but so far no-one has been arrested. The accident happened close to the White Horse pub.

Fuchsia advice

WALSALL Fuchsia and Flower Society will meet on May 19 when guest speaker Malcolm Harris will be talking about how he grows pelargoniums.

It will be at the group's new venue, Pelsall Social Club, Norton Road, Pelsall, from 7.30pm to 9.30pm.

An eye-opener for new shop in centre



Walsall's mayor at the opening of Lashious

THE first beauty salon at a shopping centre has officially opened to the public.

Lashious, which specialises in lash extensions and threading, is now trading at the Saddlers Shopping Centre in Walsall.

The business has 13 other salons throughout the UK and further branches are planned in the future.

Managing director Sunny Rach said: "Even though times are tough, people enjoy making themselves look and feel great."

"And with a unit in the heart of the town centre, we're expecting business to grow."

The Mayor of Walsall, councillor Moham-

med Nazir, was invited to mark the opening of the salon in the borough. The new business has created three jobs.

Steve Pope, asset director for Topland, which owns the Saddlers Centre, said they were really pleased with the new let as it adds to the choice and diversity in the centre.

Existing

He said it was the 30th deal since Topland has purchased the centre in February last year.

A mixture of new and existing stores have

signed up to trade at the Saddlers Centre in Walsall including newer arrivals Blue Inc, Ace Clothing and Ryman.

Since the firm took over the centre it has cut long-stay parking charges and introducing free Sunday spaces in the summer in a move to boost trade.

The move to boost trade in the town saw the £6.50 all-day fee replaced with a price of £3.50 for three hours or more.

Bosses say the success of the shopping centre included footfall figures in the Christmas week increasing by seven per cent on the previous year.

Joy as John and long-lost American sister meet up

by Charlotte Lilley

AFTER John Haydon's mother vanished from his life more than 60 years ago he always wondered what had happened to her.

The 72-year-old from Bloxwich was abandoned when he was three years old after his mother walked out of the family home following the breakdown of her marriage.

He never knew that she had set up a new life for herself in the US where she remarried before giving birth to a daughter called Diane – Mr Haydon's half-sister.

For years the siblings spent their lives more than 4,000 miles apart unaware the other existed. But after his sister stumbled across him while researching her family history they have now been brought together for the first time.

Mr Haydon said: "The realisation at my age to find that you've got a sister is a tremendous feeling. No money in the world can buy that kind of feeling. If you don't have something, then you receive it, it's a wonderful thing to find what you've got."

The retired salesman had tried to trace his mother through archives but the breakthrough came when he was given an iPad for Christmas.

Wrong

He used it to scour family history sites and signed up to social media site Facebook. Unbeknown to him, his half-sister was also researching her family history at home in Tennessee with her husband Doug Messer. She said: "I thought my mother's birth name was Eileen Haydon but I couldn't get a birth certificate because I was looking for the wrong name."

"Then I found this little chat room called Rootschat. I'd tried all the major ancestry sites and couldn't find anything but this site has lots of users who all help each other."

"It didn't take long for me to find out that my mother had married before and that her maiden name was Pinches."

The discovery uncovered a host of information including that Eileen had two sons, although one named Paul had died from whooping cough. "I said one of whom has died? Are you telling me I have a brother?" the 58-year-old said.

"Then one of the ladies helped me track



We'll meet again – John Haydon with his long-lost sister Diane Messer

down his address and I found him on Facebook." Mrs Messer, a lawyer, sent Mr Haydon a letter explaining she had information on his mother, who had died several years earlier aged 89, before dropping the bombshell that he had a half-sister.

She said: "John said he would love to speak to her daughter and I said I can tell you anything you want to know. I'm her daughter. There was no response from him and my first thought was that he'd had a heart attack but I finally got a response. Two words – love you."

The pair met for the first time at New Street Station, Birmingham, after Mrs Messer came over to visit him.

Mr Haydon, of Ganton Road, said the news he had a sister came as a shock but he is looking forward to getting to know her after years spent apart. "I almost had

a heart attack and fell off my chair when Diane told me I had a half-sister," he said. "It was like an atom bomb going off."

"I had tried so long over the years to find out more about my mum and what had happened to her but in those days we didn't have the technology."

The siblings' mother grew up in Tong Street, Chucky, and was an only child but by aged 14 she was an orphan after her parents both died young.

She married in 1942 aged 21 and lived in the Butts before leaving for Paris in July 1945 where she worked as an artist.

In 1945 she boarded a cargo ship with 600 men on board and arrived in New York where she worked as a window dresser in Macy's before moving to New Orleans and marrying Pete Marquize. Mr Haydon, who worked for United Biscuits before retiring,



Eileen Pinches fled to America in 1945 leaving her son



John Haydon pictured when he was in his 20s

said: "Why mum walked out still remains a mystery but in those days if your marriage broke up it was a serious thing and after Paul died that may have just tipped her over the edge so she ran and kept going."

"My father raised me but he never spoke about what happened, I think he found it too painful and he didn't like me asking."

Mr Haydon, who has two children, Lee, 47, and Lesley, 49, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, intends to visit his sister in November. The two have been getting to know each other and speaking on Skype every day.

Mrs Messer, added: "It's fantastic to have a whole new family. I was an only child and mum and dad had both passed so I had no family, apart from my husband and some cousins in New Orleans, and now I have a huge family. It's wonderful."

NEWS in brief

Takeaway plan set for approval

A TAKEAWAY is poised to open in a derelict shop after a petition with almost 150 signatures in support.

A change of use application for the site in Ida Road, Walsall, has been lodged. There has also been a 37-name anti-scheme petition and four letters.

Plans for a sweet shop and takeaway were refused over noise and odours fears. The new scheme includes fume extractors. Walsall Council planning committee is being recommended to approve it.

Inquest delay industrial death

AN INQUEST has opened into a Walsall man whose death may have been due to an industrial disease.

Arthur May, of Pugh Crescent, Bentley, was diagnosed with lung cancer last November. He died at the Manor Hospital, Walsall, on April 26.

The 73-year-old had been working as a security guard at his retirement but investigations are being made as to whether his death was caused by a previous occupation. The inquest was adjourned.

Take your dog on a charity walkies

PET lovers can continue to sign up for a fundraising dog walk next month.

The event in aid of Acorns Children's Hospice is being held at Walsall Arboretum on June 15. The route is either 3km or 6km, so dogs of all ages, shapes and sizes can join in.

There is a £5 per dog entry fee. Visit www.acorns.org.uk/dogwalk, email events@acorns.org, uk or call 0844 984 0405.

Sale of plants to help church funds

PREPARATIONS are being made at a church for a fundraising plant sale.

The sale and coffee morning will beat Portobello Methodist Church, in New Street, Portobello, on May 24 at 10am and will include home-grown potted plants and homemade cakes. Everyone is welcome. All funds will go towards the church's upkeep.

Join in litter pick

A LITTER pick is taking place at a wood in Moxley on May 28. People can join Walsall's countryside rangers at Moorcroft Wood on from 1pm to 3pm. They are asked to meet at the Moorcroft Environment Centre.

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



HOW can we comprehend the passing of centuries? That great observer Matthew Parris uses the late Queen Mother's lifespan of 101 years as a yardstick: "Nine Queen Mothers laid end to end will take you all the way back to the Vikings."

“IT will feel quite warm, given the strength of the May sun, but conversely in the rain it will feel quite chilly.” From this month's long-term weather forecast by the Met Office. And I dare say the wind will be occasionally blowy and the nights somewhat darker than the days.

“I SAY with some pride that I had a state education; school, university. None of it cost me or my parents a penny. It's a situation which young people in education today can only dream of and this is wrong.” Alan Bennett, just turned 80. And he's right. The snag is that in Bennett's day only a small percentage of teenagers were considered bright enough for university. They were seen as a national asset to be nurtured. The rest of us got jobs. As such elitism is no longer acceptable, we now send half of our kids to university, creating tens of thousands of graduates who seem to know nothing about anything.

OUR changing language. A patient at a hospital in Liverpool was accidentally given a vasectomy during a minor op. The hospital trust says this was only its second “never event.” The term is used to describe something that should never happen. Yet a “never event” is, by definition, something that has happened. How about the simpler and more honest expression “cock up”?

WHILE you're wining at the price of your latte, consider this expert opinion on the coffee caper. Duncan Rayner, a lifelong coffee merchant, tells the Daily Telegraph: “With quality ariba coffees costing around £1.75 a kilo raw, and yields as high as 200 cups per kilo, it is difficult to make a cup of coffee cost more than 2.5p.”

AN APOLOGY on behalf of tabloids everywhere. In recent years they may have created the impression that binge-drinking, smoking and gross obesity are undesirable. Headlines such as “Binge-drunk yobs – the shame of our nation” and “Chain-smoking lard-arse slappers stole my burger van” could imply public drunkenness and over-eating are social evils. However, having studied Ed Miliband's plans for compulsory sugar reduction, minimum alcohol prices and a smoke-free generation (Daily Mail headline: “Red Ed - We will force you to get fit”), the tabloids now recognise that smoking, alcoholism and obesity are in fact precious human rights of all freeborn Brits, to be protected at all costs. Cheers!

A REPORT suggests by 2050 up to one-third of people living in Britain will be from ethnic minorities. Not surprising, half the world is on the move, no-one knows how to stop it and we should be grateful we live in a country that people want to enter, rather than leave.

THERE is no excuse for the spate of petty vandalism and theft reported this week at Auschwitz. The Nazi extermination camp in Poland should be one of the most hallowed places on earth. And yet the daily influx of school trips, the constant clicking of cameras and the huge coach parks do create the unfortunate first impression that Auschwitz is just another tourist spot.

SCIENTISTS in the States have discovered that old mice benefit mentally and physically from transfusions of blood from younger mice. The next step is to see whether the same effects will be found with humans. Do you suspect a number of humans are already fully aware of the benefits of such transfusions? I wouldn't mind betting some sports coaches are way ahead of the scientists.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Date set for £2m revamp of school

THE long awaited revamp of a school using £2 million of Government funding will be completed in January – and will include a new English block, it has been revealed.

The Mirus Academy, Walsall, held talks with the Schools Minister David Laws last year over the poor state of the classrooms.

The school, which serves mainly the Beechdale community, has received funding to allow it to carry out some construction and revamp work on some buildings that are more than 50 years old and in desperate need of modernisation.

The sixth form centre will be transformed into an English and humanities block, the dining facilities will be upgraded and a new IT and sports centre will be fully refurbished, along with the revamp of a

Specialist Learning Centre. The bid was submitted in January as 2,015 academics competed for funding.

Interim principal Dan Neal said: “The refurbishment will be carried out in three phases with the whole project likely to be completed by January 2015.

“This funding will make a huge difference to the life choices of our students and, along with the recent

positive Ofsted monitoring visit which gave us the green light to press ahead with our other improvements, it shows the Mirus Academy is moving in the right direction.”

Bal Duffield, director of community engagement and PR, said: “This is fantastic news for our students and the local community and will help towards the regeneration of Bloxwich.”

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Asda expansion plan 'will create 25 jobs'

UP TO 25 jobs will be created under expansion plans for Asda, Bloxwich, which is looking to create a home shopping service from the store which more than 40 years old.

Dozens of part-time roles could be made available under the proposals, which have led to complaints from nearby residents. A 26-signature petition has been collected by people from flats in Woodall House.

They fear extra noise, parking problems and disturbance caused by deliveries.

The supermarket has put forward the refurbishment scheme to create a Home Shopping Pod, external freezer and two canopies.

Walsall Council rejected a previous application because it was not convinced there would be no detrimental impact on highway safety.

But a new report to members of the planning committee from transportation officers said there will be a reduction in traffic movements. The two-van service could cater for up to 120 orders a day, which would reduce the number of other vehicle trips to Asda by 240.

The plans relate to the storage yard area at the Woodall Street site and councillors are being recommended to give approval on today (Thurs).

Head of planning David Elsworth said: “The scheme would operate with the use of two vans. The use would eventually result

by Craig Hughes

in up to 25 additional part-time staff being employed, depending on the take up of the service.

“It is proposed that the vans would start loading from 7am and the last van would be 10pm. The store has been in situ for over 40 years and has no planning restrictions to either its opening hours or delivery times.

He added: “A transport statement has now been submitted and concludes, based on other Asda stores that operate a home delivery service, that the proposals would ultimately result in an overall reduction in traffic movements to the store.

“The home delivery service would eventually reduce the number of customers to the store through those that change their shopping habit by having goods delivered to their home.”

Last week it emerged a click and collect service has been launched at Asda, Darlaston, which has created seven jobs.

War remembrance tree planted



The Mayor, Councillor Mohammed Nazir plants the tree with head ranger Gary Nicholson

A GROUP of rangers is busy gearing up for a series of activities at Walsall Arboretum.

Walsall Tree Wardens has organised a walk and will be educating visitors about the different trees in the park.

They will take part in an environmental day organised by park rangers to encourage people to appreciate the environment.

It comes after civic dignitaries joined forces with cadets to plant a pin oak tree alongside members of Walsall Tree Council commemorate the First World War centenary.

nary, Jackie Cocken, chairman of Walsall Tree Wardens, said the event was a way of paying tribute to those who fought and lost their lives during the war.

She said: “Hopefully the tree will stand for hundreds of years, providing a lasting tribute to all those involved in the First World War.”

The tree walk will be held on June 22 and again on June 26 and the environment day takes place on August 6 from 10am to 4pm. For details visit www.whatsonwalsall.co.uk

Finance boss for trust is named

DUDLEY and Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust has appointed Mark Axcell as its new finance boss.

He has more than 20 years of NHS finance experience has worked across a variety of acute, community and primary care trusts.

His most recent role was associate director at Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust, and his previous experience includes senior finance posts in both the Dudley and Walsall boroughs.

The role will involve him working as part of the executive team to ensure that the trust continues to use resources effectively and efficiently in delivering high quality patient care.

He said: “I was attracted to Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust as it has an excellent reputation in delivering services for patients, and I look forward to working with Executive colleagues to continue that progress.”

He is a former NHS Institute of Innovation and Improvement Placement Manager of the Year for his involvement in the NHS financial management graduate scheme, and intends to bring this passion for developing staff to his new role.

Cajun twist at charity night

A TRADITIONAL folk band with a Cajun flavour are playing a charity night which is being held to raise money for Help for Heroes.

The Four Crosses, Watling Street, Cannock, will host Dragonhead on May 19 to raise money for the charity.

The duo play a mix of traditional and modern folk music with an added Cajun twist. There will be refreshments and a raffle, and the event begins at 8.30pm and will finish at 11pm.

For more information, email christine@rainbowstoo.plus.com

Inquest report

ON April 15 we carried a report of an inquest into the death of James Lloyd.

The family has asked us to clarify there was no argument between James and his mother, Mrs Elaine Lloyd.

We apologise for any upset caused.

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New computer system date set

PLANS to introduce a new computer system for social workers to help drive forward improvements in Walsall's children's services department could be phased in from November. Calls were made to replace the outdated PARIS system after criticism in an Ofsted report in 2012 over safeguarding services.

A single supplier is sought to provide the new system to meet both the needs of children's services and social care and inclusion.

Homeowners sign up for bills move

MORE than 650 households have signed up to a scheme which could help them save money on the cost of heating their home.

Walsall Council is encouraging residents to register for the Big Community Switch which they say will help make energy bills more manageable.

The scheme works by residents coming together to form a single powerful buying unit. The initiative is free.

For details visit www.walsall.gov.uk/BigSwitch

On target for big archery session

BUDDING bowmen are invited to try out archery on May 24 during a taster session in Walsall held by Andalus Archers.

Archery GB's Big Weekend, in association with Foresters Friendly Society, will see more than 60 clubs across the country open their doors to potential archers.

The event is at Broadway West Playing Fields, Palfrey, from 10am to 1pm.

Servis site may get new homes

WORK on creating up to 250 homes on the site of a former factory site in Darlaston could begin later this year.

The old Servis UK washing machine site has been earmarked for properties after being empty for years.

Plans are now being prepared and will go to Walsall Council within the coming months.

Church funds sale

A FUNDRAISING jumble sale takes place at Darlaston Methodist Church today. The event, which will raise money for the Salter Street church, will start at 2pm and admission will be just 20p.

Flagpole move will add £10k to costs

A FURTHER £10,000 is being spent on a council car park which attracted controversy last year when the cash-strapped authority shelled out £32,000 on resurfacing costs.

The work which took place to resurface the car park at the front of Walsall Council House last summer was branded a 'waste of money'. But it has now emerged that extra work is taking place to relocate the rooftop flagpole to ground level because the council says the existing flagpole is difficult to access.

The work, which includes the existing car park surface being overlaid and the creation of three visitor bays, is being carried out over the next month. But the decision has been criticised by Willenhall South Councillor Sean Coughlan who said the money could be better spent at a time when the authority faces having to make £100 million of savings.

Councillor Coughlan said: "In relative terms it's small money but in a time when we are making people redundant I'm disappointed the council can't get the job done right in the first instance."

Leader Mike Bird said that the cost is being met through existing budgets.

Marines test for students

STUDENTS at a school in Darlaston were put through their paces and given a taste of real-life Royal Marines training.

Year 11 and sixth form students at Grace Academy Darlaston were visited by serving Royal Marines Josh Nightingale and Tom Marsh, who tested their skill and fitness in a series of commando-style exercises.

The Royal Marines visit schools to give tasters of the fitness demands required to become a commando. They also take part in question and answer sessions about life in the service.

Tree planting

CHILDREN from a Walsall nursery helped plant trees in the grounds of Walsall Manor Hospital. The four youngsters from the nursery at Beacon Primary School each planted two trees on a grass verge next to a car park as part of an environment week.

Father's challenging year for hospital



Greg Meacham with his daughter Katie

A FATHER is taking on a series of challenges to raise money in aid of Birmingham Children's Hospital. Greg Meacham from Willenhall is competing in marathons, extreme obstacle courses and half marathons throughout this year.

He was inspired to collect cash for the hospital because his seven year-old daughter Katie, who has cerebral palsy, received treatment at the hospital.

It is planned the head of PE at Castle Business & Enterprise College in Walsall will compete his 20th event, a marathon in Chester in autumn. The 28 year-old of

Woodside Way, Short Heath, has already taken part in the likes of Stafford and Stratford Half Marathons and has been keeping an online blog of his progress.

He is also due to do a 120 mile cycling trip in a day from Bloxwich to Welshpool with friends in the summer, while fundraising is being carried out at the school where he works. Mr Meacham, who has received the backing of the Short Heath and Bloxwich Branch Amateurs running club, said he had already surpassed his initial target and it is all for the Children's Hospital in recognition of the support for his daughter.

"They are very good with her and it is to raise money for them," he said.

"I came up with the challenge last October but I couldn't start counting them until the calendar year. I was hoping to raise £500 but I have already done that, I want to be pushing closer to £2-3,000 now."

"There has been a lot of support. The local running club have even made me an honorary member." To keep up to date with his progress visit the www.gregmeacham.wordpress.com page. To donate go to www.justgiving.com/bchcastle or text BCHC85 and the amount to 70070.

Jail warning for former soldier who kept ammo

A FORMER soldier has admitted possession of explosives and ammunition in the biggest haul of its kind in the region in 10 years and been told by a judge to expect a jail sentence.

Joanne Morris, who also worked as a nurse and is currently undergoing treatment to become a woman, was held after armed police raided her house.

They discovered military style bullets and explosives, forcing the evacuation of residents and part of Bloxwich police station.

Closure of road set to continue

PART of a road that has been closed since November as part of a multi million pound project is to stay shut for another six weeks.

The over-running work has been condemned by a councillor who said it would bring misery for motorists.

A section of Broad Lane, between Bloxwich and Essington, has been closed for the project to replace a railway bridge as part of the £30m electrification of the Chase Line.

The £3 million work on the bridge started in November and was due to continue until the end of March before being put back to May. And now Network Rail has said it will be even longer. The aim is to raise the structure to enable faster trains on the route between Rugeley and Walsall.

Essington parish council chairman Councillor David Clift said: "Broad Lane railway bridgeway was due to open in April. The closure of the bridge is having a major impact on Essington and local businesses. Motorists are forced to go miles out of their way."

The haul was the largest of its kind in the West Midlands in the last decade. The ex-Royal Engineer, formerly known as Paul Morris, admitted a total of 10 counts relating to possession of a firearm and ammunition under the Firearms Act, and the possession of explosives. The charges relate to a period between February 1983 and November 2013.

Morris was arrested and remanded in custody following the discovery of the items that included a Savage Stevens shotgun, a military detonator and expanding bullets at the property. Judge John Warner told the hearing at Wolverhampton Crown court last Wednesday: "It is not a question of whether you will be sent away, but how long you go away for."

Mr Brian Dean, defending, told the court that Morris came by the items when she was a serving soldier. The case was adjourned for sentencing in July.

Hero's garden match raises £700



Jonathon Horne's daughter Frankie Batchelor-Horne, age 14, with team captains Andy Lowe and Richard Wood

UP to 200 people gathered for a football game to raise money towards a garden in memory of a Black Country soldier.

Family and friends of Corporal Jonathon Horne took part in the match at the weekend and helped collect more than £700. The father of two from Walsall, who was known as Jay, was killed in an explosion in Afghanistan in 2009. He was helping fellow soldiers from the 2nd Battalion The Rifles injured in a previous bomb blast.

His loved ones have been trying to raise £15,000 to create a memorial garden at Walsall Arboretum.

They have now raised more than £13,000 with the help of the game which took place at Rushall Olympic FC at the weekend.

It saw a team of family and friends of Cpl Horne, from Delves and who was aged 27 when he died, take on AFC Cambridge and win 3-1.

Game organiser Ian Merrett, who grew up with Cpl Horne and had

played for Silverdale FC with him, said they were pleased with how it had gone.

He thanked the support of Rushall Olympic for enabling the match to be played and they were determined to raise all the money needed.

"There were about 150 to 200 people who came along," he said. "We have raised just over £700 which is really good. We will be doing fundraising events in the future to get all the money."

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It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

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money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

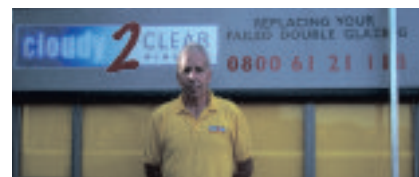
We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

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area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people

I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."

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IN MY VIEW

WITH MARK ANDREWS



VITRIOLIC Apprentice candidate turned self-styled national treasure Katie Hopkins revealed her concerns about the UK's chances in the Eurovision song contest at the weekend.

Correctly, as it turned out, she predicted that Britain's Molly Smitten-Downes would struggle to win favour with the international judging panel ahead of Saturday's showdown.

"The competition is not about singing, it is about being petty and spiteful," she wrote.

Is she pitching for a crack at it next year, then? If that is the criteria, it should be a foregone conclusion.

□□□□□

IMAGINE, for some reason, the Russian government handed out £8,000 to disgruntled students and political activists in this country so that they could buy aerosol cans to deface rundown estates with anti-government slogans.

Do you not think Mr Cameron might be a touch annoyed? Probably some of the people living on the estates might be a little upset about having their front door redecorated, too.

Yet incredibly, that is exactly what the British Government is doing in Kenya, through a ludicrous scheme funded out of the overseas aid budget.

Organisers of the project claim it aims to 'engage with artists to spread data-based information in slums in order to empower citizens to make data-driven arguments'.

No doubt many people can think of a few 'data driven arguments' they would like to spray on whichever imbeciles dreamt up this scheme.

□□□□□

CONFESSION time. For something like the last 12 years I have been taking place in a tax avoidance scheme.

I'm sorry if that comes as a shock, but I honestly didn't think I was doing anything wrong. And it wasn't my fault, Gordon Brown told me to do it. Honestly.

Like millions of other people, I took the former chancellor's advice and salted some money away in an Individual Savings Account or ISA, which means I no longer have to pay tax on the pitifully low rate of interest it attracts. I guess that's the OBE out of the window, then.

□□□□□

TALKING of tax, a few years ago I received a letter telling me I had paid too much tax the previous year, and a cheque for around £1,500 was enclosed.

A short while later another one dropped through the letterbox, telling me I had paid too much tax for the two years before that, too. All very nice but given that HM Revenue and Customs managed to overcharge me in the first place you may understand my scepticism about George Osborne's plans to take tax debts straight out of people's bank accounts.



Aged six, when she became a star, with mum Sharon



The singer ready to perform at the family piano



Connie in action during her tour of South Korea

On song Connie's hope for stardom

CRAIG HUGHES looks at how the future is panning out for one of our brightest young stars, Connie Talbot

SHE stole the hearts of the nation as the angelic little girl with the sensational singing voice and gap-toothed grin.

It seems a long time ago since Connie Talbot started the road to stardom on Britain's Got Talent.

Now almost seven years later and at the age of 13, the Streetly singer is still proving a hit with an army of fans across the world.

The teenager has more than 158,000 Twitter followers and most recently performed to sell-out crowds in South Korea.

Forthcoming concerts will be in Indonesia and Taiwan this summer, and she met a string of famous faces including George Clooney, Carly Rae Jepsen to The Wanted.

Despite worldwide fame she has managed to stay grounded and still attends school in the West Midlands, rather than have a home tutor, and tours are planned around her holidays.

Her success has only helped to whet the appetite for more and Connie has dreams of going on to become a fully-fledged pop star.

"Hopefully in the future I will be doing my own songs and practising instruments," she tells us, shortly after arriving home from playing out with friends.

"I would really like to be a pop star. I like Taylor Swift."

Connie shot to prominence in 2007 when she wowed Simon Cowell and his fellow judges with a rendition of Over the Rainbow.

Her debut album went on to sell over 250,000 copies and reached number one in three countries.

Since then whenever the youngster



The teenager is writing her own songs, and plays both the piano and guitar

posted recordings of herself on YouTube it has received millions of hits.

The worldwide draw she continues to have was further proven on her recent trip to Korea.

She performed in three sell-out concerts with 1,200 fans each time during a week-long tour during the Easter break.

It promoted her album Beautiful World, but also coincided around the time of the tragic ferry disaster which rocked the whole country and made headlines across the world.

had been fantastic. "It was such a sad time to go with the ferry incident," she says. "But she had such a welcome to Korea. They just loved her. There were people turning up who couldn't get a ticket and they were waiting."

Her success in music has given the schoolgirl the chance to visit the world and perform in front of thousands of fans, the most believed to be around 25,000 at the O2 Arena.

Sharon says it is has been an experience for the entire family and great opportunity for them to have travelled the globe. Occasionally Sharon and husband Gavin, 46, will bring Connie's brother Joshua, 20, and sister Mollie, 18 along.

"It has been interesting seeing different cultures and meeting really nice people. It has given Connie the opportunity to see the world."

Despite other interests like any other teenager girl it is still music which plays an important part in Connie's life.

"She is doing a lot of songwriting herself to make it in England she realises you have got to get your own material together," says Sharon.

"In her heart she would like to be a pop star. I think she will do pop ballads, maybe like Beyonce."

Even with her fame, education still remains at the forefront for Connie, and maintaining her friends group.

"Connie loves school. We never have to ask her to do any homework," her mother says.

Connie agrees. "I do like to be at school," she adds, saying that her favourite subjects are 'music, English and art'. I do a lot of practicing on the piano and guitar," she adds.

Connie regularly treats fans to her favourite songs recorded to camera at her home and then uploaded on YouTube.

But the video which still reigns supreme is her Britain's Got Talent audition in which she blew the audience away with Somewhere Over The Rainbow. It has attracted more than 122 million views.

POLITICS

WITH DANIEL WAINWRIGHT



ARE the Liberal Democrats still a mainstream political party?

A look at the lists of candidates nominated for council elections in the West Midlands would suggest not. They have only managed to put someone up to stand for them in just over a quarter of the seats up for grabs in the Black Country, Cannock Chase and Wyre Forest.

Nick Clegg was the butt of Labour's joke in its latest party political broadcast, a snide piece of class warfare that was an unfunny parody of B-movie sci-fi combined with Harry Enfield's Mr Choldomley Warner; with not a single piece of policy to be seen.

It portrayed the Lib Dem leader as an 'un-credible shrinking man' over broken promises such as scrapping tuition fees. The sad thing for the Deputy Prime Minister is he's a man being kicked when he is down.

And while the Black Country was never really Liberal Democrat heartland, pop over the border into Cannock Chase and it was only four years ago that they were the biggest party. Now they have people standing for them in just six out of 13 wards.

So no-one can really blame Labour for making an appeal to the disaffected voters who have abandoned the Lib Dems. They need a champion and Ed Miliband wants to be it.

Shrewd

It's a shrewd, if spitefully handled, move to try to bring them into the fold, given that the European Union cheerleaders stand utterly opposed to the prime raison d'être of Ukip (Wolverhampton's recent ex-Lib Dem turned Ukip councillor Malcolm Gwinnett aside).

I rang up the Lib Dem press office to put the question of whether they are still a mainstream party to them. The man who answered the phone sounded as though it was the most ridiculous thing he'd ever heard, as though I was asking if the sun was going to rise tomorrow. He replied: "Well, of course we are, we're in government."

Later on I got the reply that the party was still fielding more candidates than Ukip anywhere else in the country. After weeks of reading about the Eurosceptics, I wouldn't blame anyone for having Farage Fatigue. But Ukip are presenting themselves as a mainstream party now – around here anyway. They have a fraction of the party membership of the Tories but managed to stand in the vast majority of wards.

The Conservatives, as the senior party in Government, should be standing everywhere without exception. But they failed to apply to put anyone up in West Bromwich Central, leaving a two-horse race – Labour and Ukip. Anyone there who might put themselves to the right of centre may feel pretty cheesed off at the lack of choice.

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No real life going on in the soaps

I DON'T know what anybody else thinks about these soaps, but I've stopped watching (Emmerdale). These are some of the things that get me. In the past, it seems anybody can be a mechanic. We all know that's not possible with today's cars.

In that small boozier about five work there, in and out like a yo-yo. Nobody seems to lock their doors. Where do all the kids disappear to when all the parents are in the pub? Then it's cafe-pub, pub-cafe.

They don't seem to do much work, and Val, well, all we ever do is see her smoke and

drink. The whole show is a bad advert for drink awareness. They have it all at home as well.

I don't think the Dingles have any food in the fridge it's all cans of beer. The only other thing is a murder or someone pegging it. The marriages only last about a month and then all this shouting at one another. Fancy living like that day in day out?

These script writers want to get a grip and put a bit of sunshine in these soaps for a change.

F H JENNINGS, Birmingham

No mention of migrants

AFTER watching a TV programme about the dire situation that the NHS is falling into, I was surprised that not one word was spoken about the thousands of immigrants coming into this country that are entitled to the same medical care as the native population.

Most will not have paid into the system for the same number of years the rest of us have but are still entitled to the same care benefits.

Surely this can't be a fair situation when our own people are being refused new treatments for life threatening illnesses and people are having to sell the homes that they have worked for all of their lives to pay for care in their old age.

It's about time this and consecutive governments addressed the problem and properly stemmed the flow of immigration.

This small island of ours can no longer support the mass influx of other nationalities. Perhaps these new citizens should be made to take out health insurance the minute that they enter Britain maybe then the NHS may have a chance to heal itself.

I HUNTER, Willenhall

LETTERS to the Editor

POST

Walsall Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

E-MAIL

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Approval on leisure centres is welcomed

IT was pleasing to witness Walsall Council's Cabinet on Wednesday April 30 giving unanimous approval for their go ahead for two new state of the art leisure centres at Oak Park and Bloxwich (Option 1).

As a local Blakenall Ward Walsall councillor I am particularly pleased to see cabinet agreeing with the cross party scrutiny panel's unanimous recommendation, by giving the go ahead for Option 1 which will now mean that both Oak Park and Bloxwich will get brand new centres and that the Bloxwich project will not be downgraded.

I have been in consultation with officers during the long process that has culminated in the cabinet's decision. Despite claims to

the contrary by one of the Blakenall Ward councillors, there has been extensive consultation on this project included 283 properties surrounding and in close proximity to the site as well as the ward members.

In addition three site notices were displayed (High Street, Field Close and Blakenall Lane).

Although part of the new Centre will take up a small part of Leamore Park, it needs to be known that the space required is actually less than half of one football pitch. Also, when bringing the recreation ground space back into use (by removing The Slang fence) there is an overall net gain of some 1.12 hectares of green space.

CLLR PETE SMITH
Blakenall Ward

Air service should not be a charity

WHY is it that this government will not foot the bill for air ambulances? Why is it that air ambulances have to rely totally on public donations? Why is it not part of the NHS funding?

Each air ambulance costs approximately £6.2m per year, a drop in the ocean for the NHS multi-billion pound budget.

Thousands of lives have been saved by air ambulances since they were introduced, by reaching patients with life threatening conditions, where wheeled ambulances cannot reach and also within 'the golden hour'. If patients are treated within this period, their chances of survival are greatly improved.

In Australia, a vast country, the 'flying doctor' service, has been in operation for many decades to reach remote places, to medically treat patients, but is not funded by the 'goodwill' of Australians, or charitable donations. We in this country in relation to the government, boast the best free NHS system in the world.

A PARKER, Willenhall

Not outfoxed by request

BANK Holiday Monday at 9.30am I rang Walsall Town Hall without much optimism to report a dead fox adjacent to Pelsall Common.

Within one hour it had been removed. Many thanks to a much-maligned council.

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Benefits reform bid backed by authority

A FORUM for residents struggling to make ends meet will be set up within weeks after being backed by council bosses.

Walsall Council chiefs are supporting plans for the welfare reform forum which will be aimed at helping those hit by the overhaul to the benefits system.

It comes after a group of councillors concluded that welfare reforms were 'very wide ranging and have affected thousands of local residents' and had had 'a detrimental impact on their lives and incomes'.

A report by members of the corporate scrutiny and performance panel recommended more needs to be done to support residents.

The report suggests the forum would help the authority draw up solutions and target the people most in need. It is thought that regular meetings will be held where members of the public will be able to go along and raise any issues in an attempt to work with councillors to resolve.

Lead member Councillor Sean Coughlan said: "The Government's welfare reforms represent the most fundamental changes to the benefits system in a generation. The scale and impact of individual reforms have

been documented in a variety of media coverage and are generally understood, however, what we set out to do was to try and understand the cumulative impacts of all of the Government's reforms, and claimants' and local areas' ability to deal with them.

"The rise of food banks over the last couple of years, the fact that millions have been lost to the Walsall economy, the pressure on landlords to find suitable accommodation for those affected by the 'bedroom tax' and pressure on residents that find themselves victims of welfare reform, make this piece of work important in how we (the council) work with partners in the future to mitigate the worst effects of welfare reform."

by Adam Burling

Funny Sarah-Ann hits all the right notes



Opera singer and comedienne Sarah Ann Cromwell seen next to the New Art Gallery in Walsall

OPERA and comedy don't often go hand in hand. But a performer from Walsall is combining the two and hitting all the right notes - making a name for herself in the entertainment world.

Sarah-Ann Cromwell went down a storm at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe last year with her Diva Gigs show - a mixture of opera and comedy. Since then Miss Cromwell, who was a music teacher until nine years ago when she quit to pursue her dream of opera singing, has performed numerous shows and is booked up now until July.

The classically trained soprano singer said: "It's all snowballed really. I'm Britain's first award-winning opera singing comedy performer. People are really starting to understand what the show is about. Social media has helped in that sense."

Miss Cromwell, who used to work at Joseph Leckie Academy in Walsall, performed a sell-out gig at the Midlands Arts Centre (MAC) in Birmingham last month.

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Spitz sparked Sir Steve into sport, pupils told

MOST of his audience were not even born when Sir Steve Redgrave was crowned the greatest Olympian of all time after winning his fifth gold medal in five consecutive Olympic Games.

But his achievements were not lost on the pupils of Streetly Academy in Walsall who listened with rapt attention to the great man's story.

His visit was in recognition of the school's sporting prowess. Last year it won the prestigious UK Sports College of the Year Award for innovation and achievement from the Youth Sport Trust national body.

Speaking at assembly, rowing legend Sir Steve told how he had been inspired by American swimmer Mark Spitz who became the first man to win seven gold medals at the same Olympics in the 1972 Games in Munich.

"I was 10 at the time and it made a tremendous impression on me," he said. "I was inspired, I thought: 'Wouldn't it be great to win one?'"

He answered questions from pupils about his training and motivation before being interviewed by the school's media team and joining youngsters for a game of ultimate Frisbee.

Sir Steve, who is dyslexic, described his younger self as 'not the brightest tool in the box academically' and said sports training taught him discipline. "After an hour or so on the water after school I would come home and do my homework. Without sport, it could have gone either way for me," he said.

But he added: "You have to enjoy it. People talk of the sacrifices but if I had my time all over again, I'd do it all again for half as good results."

"You are privileged and, yes it's a lot of effort, but there's a lot of fun and enjoyment and camaraderie as well."



With Daniel Caines and Streetly students



Skipping inside the academy sports hall



With Becky Parsons and Lauren Wolverson

Sir Steve, now 52, has been part of the Sporting Promise project, which aims to ensure that children across the country have access to sports activity in school, for three years. He said: "If I can't take part in sport myself, going round to schools and inspiring others to take it up is the next best thing."



Sir Steve plays ultimate Frisbee

The father of three revealed he has taken up another sporting challenge to get back in a boat again this autumn. "It's in a big boat - there will be eight of us - but I've already got blisters," he said. The school is proud of its own sporting credentials with many of its pupils playing at the top level.

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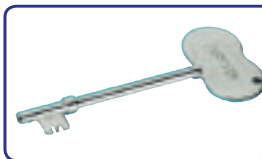
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Teenage cyclist Timothy Stott, right, who raised hundreds of pounds in his grandfather's memory

A COLLEGE student has more than doubled his fundraising target after cycling around 100 miles in memory of his late grandfather. Timothy Stott, a public services student at Walsall College, completed a round trip to the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital in aid of Cancer Research UK.

moth mission with his stepfather Peter Danks, aged 34, and family friend Kevin Giles, 31, had initially planned to raise £250 but so far more than £532 has flooded in.

The trek to Shropshire was inspired by his 68-year-old grandfather Norman Stott who died four years ago after battling Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

The 18-year-old, of Bloxwich, who completed the mam-

Staff bid on new system

TWENTY-FIVE temporary workers are being taken on at a hospital trust at a cost of £100,000 to help with a new computer system.

The move comes after staff complained that it was actually slowing them down in their work.

The new Lorenzo system at Walsall Manor Hospital aims to improve the

way that patient information is managed. But frustrated workers say they are struggling to fit all their work into their day, fearing it could lead to mistakes in booking appointments.

The moves come despite hospital bosses trying to cut the number of temporary workers being taken on as patient numbers continue to rise.

So bosses have agreed to take on 25 staff on three-month contracts - which could be extended to six months - to

help bring the new system in. The introduction of the Lorenzo system follows the merger of the hospital and primary care services into a single healthcare trust two years ago.

It will eventually mean the removal of the need for staff to physically retrieve paper files from storage rooms.

However a report to the Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust reveals a 'sense of frustration among staff using the system'.

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Craig sees his new business take off



Craig Mason, who has started a Tae Kwon Do martial arts business at his home in Littleton Road, New Invention

A MARTIAL arts enthusiast has taken the plunge and set up his own business after being made redundant six months ago. Craig Mason worked as a machinist at Point 8 in Halesoven Road, Dudley, making interiors and displays for libraries, schools and museums.

He was made redundant in November last year after being employed by the company for 26 years. He said: "I have been doing Tae Kwon Do for around six years having trained at Bloxwich Tae Kwon Do Club and I really enjoy it so I decided to take the plunge and start my own classes."

The 45-year-old of Lyttleton Road, New Invention, will run sessions every Tuesday night at Tipton's Royal Society of Arts Academy in Bilston Road from 7pm to 8pm. He hopes to add more classes in the future. For more information visit www.westmidstkd.co.uk or call 07877 150691.

Hope over repairs at club hit by lorry crash

BOSSSES at a social club in Wednesbury hope to 'get back to normal' when work finally begins to repair severe damage caused when a lorry ploughed through a wall on Boxing Day.

Polish lorry driver Henryk Jackowski, aged 55, was killed when his vehicle smashed into the Royal British Legion base in Church Hill.

Five months on from the tragedy, the club said members are still coming to terms with what happened. Work to repair the damaged part of the building began this week - months later than originally expected.

Chairman Leigh Jones, aged 39, said it had been a 'tremendously difficult year' for the club. "We had hoped to have the work completed by now but it has taken the insurance companies involved longer to work things out than expected," he said.

"All of the contracts have now been signed and the bricklayers will begin work. Hopefully once that is done we can get back to normal."

"The damaged part of the building is still boarded up. It has been the same since December."

He said the smash had

impacted the club in many ways - with around £2,000 lost in takings over the course of the year due to the loss of facilities.

"The lorry went into the games room which is where the snooker table was," he said. "Because we have not had that for five months a lot of members who use to play a game of snooker have gone to other places."

Mr Jones said some of those who had been in the building on the night of the crash had only come back on a few occasions. "It is very sad but people were understandably very upset," he added.

Just over a week later, the club was dealt a second blow when it was raided and two games machines were forced open and cash stolen.

by Helen Brown

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Focus on Pelsall

Hopes for a restaged rock event

A ROCK gig which was halted by bar bosses over concerns some performers were underage could be restaged at a community centre.

Dave Gibbons organised the event at Walsall's Wharf Bar alongside his 19-year-old son Kieron to raise money for Get Connected, a charity that provides help for under 25s who have nowhere to live. But the show was stopped because some of the performers were under 18 and there were fears this would breach the business's licence.

Mr Gibbons has since met with bar manager Adam Kennedy who says they will now work to get the event staged at a venue that can accommodate youngsters.

Meanwhile, one parent says he is planning to organise another gig after his 17-year-old son was unable to perform.

Darren Sheffield, aged 43, of Clayhanger, said: "My son and his bandmates have been rehearsing for 10 weeks in preparation for the gig and it's just a kick in the teeth that they didn't get to perform. Nobody has taken responsibility which is the worst part."

However, Mr Kennedy said: "From my information our entertainment manager had difficulty getting all the relevant information from Mr Gibbons before the event. We apologise for any inconvenience."

A NEW food bank is poised to open at a church in Walsall later this year – with the potential to help hundreds of people in crisis.

Emergency food parcels will be handed out and vulnerable people will be directed to services by volunteers working from Pelsall Methodist Church. The food bank is due to be set up in August after the Brownhills, Pelsall, Rushall and Shelfield Area Panel approved funding.

A total of £1,500 will go towards the scheme.

Val Asprey, project manager for the Walsall North food bank, said: "We are extremely grateful for the funding. There is a need for it in the WS4 area. Potentially it could help hundreds of people."

It is intended that the food bank will open two days a week for a couple of hours.

Volunteers

It will run in line within the guidelines set by the Trussell Trust, a charity which co-ordinates a nationwide network of food banks.

Volunteers will be trained to work with vulnerable people and to signpost them to various agencies where they can access help.

Families and individuals in need will be able to get emergency food parcels.

Ms Asprey said: "They will be given a voucher and can exchange it for three days of emergency food. The food they get is planned by a dietician. The £1,500 will allow us to set up, but we

will need to keep fundraising. Donations of food or money to the food bank will be welcome.

"We were hoping to open at the Methodist church in July but there is some heating work being done so it will now be early August.

"The main reason people get into crisis is debt. It's very difficult today with zero-hour contracts. About 99 per cent of people we are dealing with will be in work."

Councillor Richard Worral, vice-chairman of the area panel, has welcomed the project. He said: "I'm so pleased they have got the support and couldn't think of a more worthy cause.

"There are an awful lot of people suffering real hardship."

"The Walsall North food bank's area of coverage will be Brownhills, Pelsall, Rushall, Shelfield and High Heath."

Donations of food or money can be taken to Pelsall Methodist Church, in Chapel Street.

By Lisa O'Brien



Darren Russell, left, and Martyn Collier, who have raised cash for St Giles Hospice

Cycle duo complete ride effort

TWO friends have completed a 120-mile cycle ride in memory of one of their mothers who died from cancer.

Darren Russell, aged 44, and Martyn Collier, 53, have known each other for more than 15 years and raised over £900 for St Giles Hospice. Last year the pair had hoped to do the challenge as part of a larger group but it never materialised.

Then Mr Russell, who is a transport manager at Walsall Housing Group, lost his mum Ann Steed to cancer in November.

In her memory he and Mr Collier, decided to raise funds for the hospice, where his mother was cared for.

They set off from Bloxwich on Thursday May 1, and arrived at Brean Sands on the Somerset coast on Saturday. Married father-of-three Mr Collier, who grew up in Pelsall but now lives in Cheslyn Hay, and Mr Russell have been supported by Halfords in their effort. To sponsor them go to www.justgiving.com/brean-bike2014

Guild marks milestone anniversary

MORE than 40 women celebrated the landmark anniversary of the Townswomen's Guild at Brownhills Memorial Hall.

A party took place at the hall to celebrate the group's 85th birthday, where there was a buffet, live music and dancing.

National guild chairman, Margaret Key, was guest of honour at the event.

The Brownhills branch meets on the second Monday of every month at the Memorial Hall, with a guest speaker at each one. Currently the group has 42 members.

The guild also host a wide range of events such as fashion shows, craft fairs, baking and musical events to raise money for their chosen charities. They also enjoy day trips to the likes of Buckingham Palace and Kensington Palace.

The organisation was initiated at the time of the Suffragette movement in 1929.

Pub boost for hospital ward

STAFF at a pub raised thousands for poorly children at Good Hope Hospital.

The Queslett in Streetly held raffles and tombolas and together with a £1,500 donation from Jaguar Land Rover raised £2,596 for the children's assessment unit.

Remon Adly, manager at the pub, said: "It's a pleasure raising money for such a good cause." Ward play specialist Amanda Davies said: "A big thank you to all the guys at the Queslett and Jaguar Land Rover."

ADVERTISEMENT

Camera-shy because of failing teeth, images of a dream Caribbean wedding are missing a mum's proud smile but now she's . . .

THE SUN shone, the sea was as blue as the cloudless sky and a small, family group celebrated a wedding on the shoreline of paradise.

With the warm, golden sand beneath their feet, they toasted the happy couple and made memories that would last lifetimes.

Runaway Bay, one of the jewels of the Caribbean, had it all – magic, romance, a spectacular setting and the ultimate backdrop for wedding album pictures – and there were plenty to be taken.

But one person was noticeably absent from the captured images of the smiles, laughter and celebrations on that special day.

Only a single frame – a group shot, and not a close-up – featured the groom's proud mum. Jan had travelled more than 4,600 miles to embrace the Big Day moment with five others in the wedding party, but in her own words, "I didn't feel right."

Teeth were a mess

Everything was perfect, everyone was happy and "it was a lovely, lovely day," but Jan deliberately melted into the background every time the cameras clicked.

"I wouldn't have my picture taken," she confesses. "I know it seems strange, but I did not want to spoil the day for my son. That's the way I felt. Everything was lovely, I'd taken some lovely clothes, the setting was lovely and you couldn't have wished for better . . . the people, the ceremony in the pagoda, the beach bungalow where we stayed and the way the locals were so friendly to us.

"But my teeth were a mess. When I smiled you couldn't see any of my teeth and I was so embarrassed at the way they looked, I not only spoke with my hand in front of my mouth, I ate like that too," Jan, from Kidderminster, recalls.



Jan is all smiles as she tends one of her acer trees in her garden.

As the groom's mum, the focus of attention was emotionally crippling.

Now in her 60s, Jan's troubles began some 40 years ago. Suffering with a gum disorder in her lower jaw, her dentist carried out a full clearance.

"I had four lower teeth in the front where the trouble was, but I was told I had to lose them all. In those days you just accepted it. It was a horrible experience and those experiences

stay with you," she says. Jan tolerated a catalogue of prosthetic prescriptions which never "felt comfortable or looked right" and for 15 years her food choices were seriously compromised.

"I couldn't eat apples, or pears, or steak and every time I went to a restaurant I'd have to order fish. My gums were always sore and I couldn't chew properly," she adds.

Jan's self-esteem hit rock bottom until she

saw an article in the newspaper about Steven Burchell's work at the Denture Clinic in North Street, Dudley.

"My husband said I should book an appointment and I told him that he needed to get laser surgery on his eyes. He said 'I can live with glasses, but you can't live without your teeth.'"

It was true: Meeting Jan now is an engaging experience and she loves her new look.

"I'm planning to go back for our 50th wedding anniversary... guess who won't be frightened to have their picture taken then?"

"On the picture from the wedding my face seems so small, but my whole appearance has changed since meeting Steven. My only regret is that I didn't meet him earlier," she adds.

Steven CDT DipRCS(Eng) says: "Jan came to me with dentures that were not really helping here. She had a lot of gum and bone erosion – a natural ageing process – and her dentures were not stable."

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Says Jan, who has now taken her 85-year-old mother for some new teeth at the Denture Clinic: "All the way home after my new teeth were fitted I kept looking in the car's vanity mirror and smiling at myself. I was so chuffed."

"I'm planning to go back to Runaway Bay with my husband in 2016 for our 50th wedding anniversary and guess who won't be frightened to have their picture taken then?"

As for her experience with Denture Clinic: "Simply the best! I can't thank Steven and his team enough."

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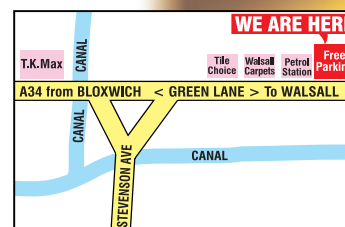
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Darlaston town hall seen sometime in 1919 following the end of the First World War



Darlaston Town Hall in the early part of the last century



The magnificent Slater Memorial Organ seen in all its glory at the town hall

£100,000 campaign to ensure Binns organ remains key to hall's future

CAMPAIGNERS have launched an £100,000 appeal to preserve the historic pipe organ at Darlaston Town Hall to safeguard the venue's musical heritage.

The Binns instrument was built 111 years ago by the renowned organ maker James J Binns of Leeds at its Bramley Organ Works.

It is believed to be the only working instrument of its type remaining.

Now town hall organist Mervin Jones and Darlaston South's councillor Doug James have joined forces to launch a fundraising drive to improve it for future generations.

Mr Jones, who play it for monthly concerts at the red brick town hall, says the organ was an important feature of the area's heritage.

"We are trying to make sure the organ carries on working and being played well after I'm gone because it's the heritage of this town."

MEMORY LANE by Deborah Hardiman

"Many buildings and features of the borough have been stripped away over the decades and we don't want that to happen here."

"For example, the old Gaumont Theatre in Walsall had the first Wurlitzer organ in this country installed there. Eventually it was sold for a ridiculous sum of money and I think it ended up in a church in Cornwall. It never should have left the area in the first place."

Pneumatic

"It would be really sad if anything like that happens to this organ, so we are setting up an organ fund to ensure that doesn't happen."

"We can't expect the council to pay for the work as the funds just aren't there," Mr Jones said.

He said representatives from the Binns charitable trust and from the former Rubery Owen car parts works were due to visit the town hall, in Victoria Road, Darlaston, in the near future to inspect the organ to see what work is needed to be carried out on it.

Mr Jones said the pedal board and the pneumatic action that makes the sound both need major overhauls, the pipe workings need cleaning.

He added that all but one of the console stops were in working order.

The organ was given to the town in 1903 by the town's prominent Slater family who were in business and were well known in the area at the time.

Slater Street situated near the town hall was named after them.

It was commissioned by Mrs S M Slater and family in memory of her late husband James.

"The magnificent Binns Organ at Darlaston Town Hall is now the only working Binns Organ of its type in Britain."

"The appeal aims to raise 100,000 and musical enthusiasts, choirs, musicians and entertainers are requested to support it by offering their services for a programme of events to raise the funds and the profile of the appeal," Councillor James said.

For details about the appeal and how to make a donation towards the effort contact 07983 456213.

Bookings

The Victorian town hall, which dates back to 1888, closed in 2006 for two years amid health and safety concerns.

It was reopened after a £420,000 makeover and councillors in the area have been working with a variety of community groups to drum up more bookings.

Last Friday there was a lunchtime concert with guest singer Debbie Miles from 1.30pm.

Other planned activities for the future include tea dances, coffee mornings, community days and it is also hoped to launch a regular whist event.



Mervin Jones, the town hall organist, with some music

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Square in a spin for chance to win big

COMMERCIAL FEATURE

A GAME show-inspired giant wheel will get shoppers in a spin this Friday and Saturday at New Square Shopping Centre in West Bromwich.

There will be thousands of fashion related prizes up for grabs with one lucky winner being named Fashion King or Queen of the Square!

Taking place between 11am and 3pm, shoppers will be invited to take a spin on the Wheel of Fashion to be in with a chance of winning one of the thousands of prizes on offer, which include: shopping vouchers, cinema tickets, free meals and a grand prize worth £300!

Just like the 'Wheel of Fortune', whatever section of the wheel the participants land on will determine if they win – top prizes for the event have been supplied by River Island, Odeon, Outfit Fashion, Nando's, Tesco, JD Sports, Primark, Subway, O2, Phones 4u and Bank.

All those who spin the Wheel of Fashion will be entered into a draw to win the grand prize.

The winner, who will be picked at random will enjoy a fashionable day and night at the shopping centre.

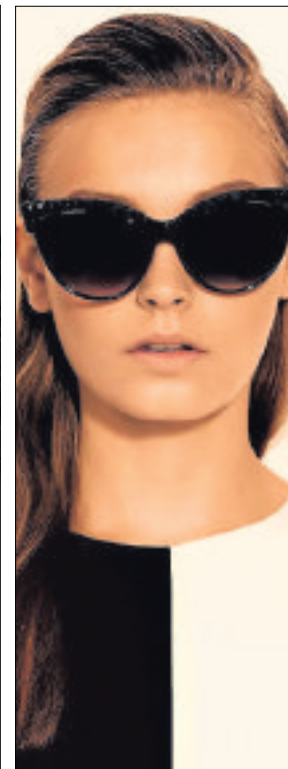
The prize includes £300 worth of shopping vouchers, lunch, dinner, free parking and cinema tickets.

The wheel will be situated on a specially designed stage within the mall area of the shopping centre on Friday.

Steve Burr, Centre Manager at New Square said: "I'm looking forward to giving away a lot of prizes over the two days and as well as crowning one very lucky winner Fashion King or Queen of New Square!"



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Labour set to win back control of council

THE local election on May 22 is set to be a pivotal moment for Walsall, with Labour predicted to seize control after 14 years in opposition.

It became the largest party on the borough council, with 28 seats, in the last local elections in 2012. But the Tories went into coalition with the Liberal Democrats. Even then, the coalition still did not have a majority

But two independent councillors and one for Democratic Labour have refused to support either side.

Whoever wins will inherit a budget that has imposed £21 million of cuts for the next financial year and will have to draw up further savings for the coming financial years as well.

The full list of candidates is:

Aldridge Central and South: Kyle Duckers (Ukip) Corrie Ann Halford (Lab) John Murray (Con)* Roy Sheward (Lib Dem)

Aldridge North and Walsall Wood: David Cooke (Ukip) Bob Grainger (Lab) Mark Greveson (Lib Dem) Anthony Harris (Con)*

Bentley and Darlaston North: Mushtaq Ahmed (Con) Rose Burley (Lab)* Alan Rudd-Everitt (Ukip) Mohammed Yaqub (Lib Dem)

Birchills Leamore: Gazanfer Ali (Con) Bob Ball (BNP) Gary Edmunds (Ukip) Lee Jeavons (Lab)*

Blakenall: Dave Church (Independent) William Cummings (Ukip) Thomas Havemann-Mart (Con) Ian Robertson (Lab)* (New candidate)

Bloxwich East: Steve Baggott (Ind) Kath Phillips (Lab)* Mark Statham (Con) Gary Timmins (Ukip)

Bloxwich West: Richard Coley (Ukip) Alan Davies (Independent) Louise Harrison (Con)* Chris Newey (I'm English, Not British, Not European!) Matthew Ward (Lab)

Brownhills: Vivienne Aston (Con)* (New candidate) Stephen Craddock (Ukip) Lauren Davies (Lab)

Darlaston South: Paul Bott (Independent)* Peter Burton (Ukip) Wendy Collins (Lab) Jane Lakin (Con)

Fighting to take European seats

ELECTIONS for the European parliament take place on the same day. The West Midlands candidates are:

An Independence From Europe: Mike Nattrass, Mark Nattrass, Joshua Pattini, Carl Humphries, George Forrest, Douglas Ingram, Paul Alders

British National Party: Michael Coleman, Jennifer Mathtys, Kenneth Griffiths, Simon Patten, David Bradnock, Mark Badrick, Phillip Kimberley

Conservative: Philip Bradbourn, Anthea McIntyre, Dan Dalton, Michael Burnett, Sibby Buckle, Dan Sames, Alex Avern

English Democrats: Derek Hilling, Christopher Newey, Stephen Paxton, Charles Hayward, Margaret Stoll, David Lane, Fred Bishop

Green Party: Will Duckworth, Aldo Mussi, Vicky

Local election

Paddock: Nasar Ali (Lab) Derek Bennett (Ukip) Glyn Fletcher (Lib Dem) Gurmeet Sohal (Con)* (New candidate)

Palfrey: Michael Brownridge (Ukip) Mohammad Nazir (Lab)* Brian Powell (Independent) Mohammad Yasin (Con)

Pleck: Mark Dabbs (Independent) Mozamil Khan (Lib Dem) Elizabeth Peers (Ukip) Harbans Singh Sarohi (Lab)* Mohammed Yaqoob (Con)

Pelsall: Oliver Bennett (Con)* Balvir Kaur Dhillon (Lab) Graham Eardley (Ukip) Sim Mayour (Independent)

Pheasey Park Farm: Steven Grey (Ukip) Ashley Lovell (Lab) Christopher Towse (Con)*

Rushall-Shelfield: Ron Carpenter (Con)* (New candidate) Claire Crews (Lab) Alan Paddock (Independent) David Wycherley (Ukip)

St Matthews: Jas Johal (Con)* (New candidate) Gerry Mahoney (Ukip) Aftab Nawaz (Lab) Stephanie Peart (Independent)

Short Heath: Carol Fletcher (Lib Dem)* (New candidate) Darren Hazell (Ukip) Mark Pulford (Lab) Peter Washbrook (Con)

Streety: Eddie Hughes (Con)* Raaj Shamji (Lab) Paul White (Ukip)

Willenhall North: Ben Gray (Con) Liz Hazell (Ukip) Anja Illmann-Walker (Lab) Val Woodruff (Lib Dem)*

Willenhall South: Diane Coughlan (Lab)* Charles Haywood (English Democrats) Philip Howell (Ukip) Ramtirth Singh Uppal (Con) Anne Willoughby (Lib Dem)* Incumbent party



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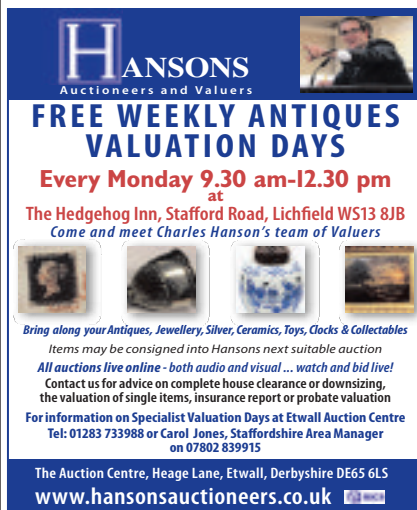
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CHOICE



Dame Judi Dench

Bob Larbey - A Tribute (BBC2, 8pm)

TV comedy is littered with writing partnerships, with Bob Larbey and John Esmonde one of Britain's best. They met at school and their breakthrough project was set in a classroom – that of teacher John Alderton in Please Sir! They hit the big time in 1975 when the first series of The Good Life aired. Hits such as Ever Decreasing Circles and Brush Strokes followed, while Larbey branched out on his own to create the Judi Dench vehicles A Fine Romance and As Time Goes By. Esmonde died in 2008, while Larbey passed away in March this year. This documentary pays tribute to their work together, but also to Larbey's output as a 'solo artist'.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 Nigellissima. (R) 12.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.15 Live Athletics: Great Manchester City Games. 2.50 Bargain Hunt. (R) 3.55 Escape to the Country. (R) 4.35 Celebrity Mastermind. (R) 5.05 Film: Enchanted. (2007)

6.45 BBC News: Regional News. **7.00 Pointless Celebrities.** Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman present as famous faces take part in the general knowledge quiz in which they try to come up with the least likely correct answers to a series of questions posed to members of the public. (R)

7.55 The National Lottery: In It To Win It. Dale Walton presents the quiz in which five contestants pit their wits to scoop a big cash prize. Only those in the winners' row will have a chance of taking home the loot, so they will need to get all the answers right – as well as a little bit of luck on their side.

8.45 Casually. A couple's wedding turns sour when the bride admits a secret to the groom just minutes before the ceremony, causing him to have one drink too many then climb behind the wheel – with his new wife and their 11-year-old son also in the car. Before long, the paramedics and Ash are at the scene of a traffic accident – but when the latter tries to administer ketamine, he finds it missing from his medical bag. At the doctor's home, his tearaway daughter Ella invites her friends over for a treat – which turns out to be the drug she has stolen from her father's case – unaware of the drama about to unfold.

9.35 The Guess List. Eamonn Holmes, Helen Skelton, Bob Mortimer, Kate Garraway and Nick Hewer help contestants answer all sorts of everyday questions.

10.15 Mrs Brown's Boys. Comedy, starring Brendan O'Carroll as a dotting mother-of-six who constantly interferes in her children's lives. (R)

10.45 BBC News: Weather; National Lottery Update.

11.05 Film: Meet the Parents. (2000) A male nurse makes a disastrous bid to impress his girlfriend's father – a former CIA agent who does not suffer fools gladly. Comedy, starring Robert De Niro.

12.50 Film: Norbit. (2007) 2.25 Weatherwise. 2.30 BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. 6.15 Film: Dangerous Mission. (1954) 7.30 Great British Menu. (R) 8.00 Great British Menu. (R) 8.30 Great British Menu. (R) 9.00 Great British Menu. (R) 9.30 Great British Menu. (R) 10.00 The Living Planet. (R) 10.55 Coast. (R) 11.00 Fred Dibnah's Industrial Age. (R) 11.30 Great British Railway Journeys. (R) 12.00 Spring Kitchen with Tom Kerridge. (R) 12.45 Nigel Slater's Simple Suppers. 12.50 Laurence Olivier: Talking Pictures. 1.25 Film: Wuthering Heights. (1939) Period drama, starring Merle Oberon. 3.05 Film: Pride and Prejudice. (1940) Period drama, starring Laurence Olivier. 5.00 Natural World: Honey Badgers – Masters of Mayhem. (R)

6.00 Fog It! Paul Martin and antiques experts James Lewis and Anita Manning visit Winslow in Cheshire, where valuable items going up for auction include jewellery, toys, porcelain and a Georgian table.

7.00 Museums at Night. Will Gompertz is at the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh for a celebration of the three-day festival during which museums and galleries open to the public after dark.

8.00 Bob Larbey – A Tribute. A celebration of the life and work of the comedy writer, who died in March. With John Esmonde he created sitcoms including The Good Life, Ever Decreasing Circles and Brush Strokes.

8.15 Comedy Connections. A look at John Esmonde and Bob Larbey's Ever Decreasing Circles, charting the careers of stars Richard Briers, Penelope Wilton and Peter Egan. (R)

8.55 All About The Good Life. The story of the 1970s sitcom about a couple who opted out of the rat race and turned their suburban back garden into a smallholding. With Richard Briers and Penelope Keith. (R)

9.55 QI XL. Stephen Fry hosts an extended edition of the comedy quiz, with Sue Perkins, Ross Noble, David Mitchell and Alan Davies answering questions on the topic of knots and Knobs.

10.40 Film: Gone Baby Gone. (2007) A private eye searches the Boston neighbourhood where he grew up to find a missing four-year-old girl. Crime drama, starring Casey Affleck, Morgan Freeman and Michelle Monaghan.

12.25 Film: Mesrine: Killer Instinct. (2008) 2.10 This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Dino Dan. 6.10 Dino Dan. (R) 6.25 Matt Fretter Chronicles. (R) 6.50 Animals. (R) 7.00 Animals. (R) 7.05 Sooty. (R) 7.20 Digmom Fusion. (R) 7.45 Horrid Henry. (R) 8.00 Adventure Time. 8.25 ITV News. 8.50 Weekend. 9.25 The Hungry Sailors. (R) 10.25 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 11.25 ITV News; Weather. 11.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. 12.55 Storage Hoarders. (R) 1.25 All Star Family Fortunes. (R) 2.10 Off Their Rockers. (R) 2.35 Regional Programme. Weather. 2.45 ITV News; Weather. 3.00 The FA Cup Final. Arsenal v Hull City (Kick-off 5.00pm).

7.30 Britain's Got Talent. Ant and Dec present the sixth audition show, as the judges – Simon Cowell, David Walliams, Amanda Holden and Alesha Dixon – give their verdicts on more of the nation's best – and worst – performers. Queuing up to take the stage, acts of all ages and abilities are determined to prove they're worthy of the £250,000 cash prize and a slot at this year's Royal Variety Performance, but while some of them will be deserving, the dream will be over for those whose auditions are cut short by the panel.

8.50 Amazing Greys. Neil Bishop from Bournemouth and Samantha Boshier from South Tyneside take on the golden oldies, comprising bodybuilder Eric Dowey, table tennis champion Roy Norton, Antiques Roadshow expert John Bly, bowls legend Willie Wood, veteran quiz-show competitor Brian Edwards and four-time Olympic fencer Ralph Johnson. It's a battle of youth versus experience as the young contenders aim to leave with £10,000. Game show, hosted by Paddy McGuinness and Angela Rippon. Last in the series.

9.50 The Americans. An old foe of Philip's arrives in town with a vendetta, just as he and Elizabeth embark on a high-stakes mission, while Stan makes a discovery that could unearth the KGB spy ring within America. 1980s-set drama, starring Matthew Rhys and Keri Russell, with Noah Emmerich and Gillian Anderson.

10.45 ITV News: Weather. **11.00 FA Cup Football Highlights.** Arsenal v Hull City. Action from the key moments of the final at Wembley Stadium, as the 133rd staging of the tournament reached a conclusion.

12.00 Jackpot247. 3.00 Dinner Date. Australia. (R) 3.45 ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.05 The Hoobs. (R) 6.30 Trans World Sport. 7.30 Film Superbike World Championship. 8.00 The Morning Line. 9.00 Weekend Kitchen. 10.00 Frasier. (R) 10.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 10.55 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.25 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.50 The Simpsons. (R) 12.20 The Simpsons. (R) 1.45 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD. (R) 1.45 Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Newbury and Newmarket. 4.10 Come Dine with Me. (R) 4.40 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.10 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.45 Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.15 Come Dine with Me. Doctor Chintu Gademsetty hosts the final dinner party in east London, hoping to impress with a 1980s-themed evening before the winner of the £1,000 prize is announced. (R)

6.45 Channel 4 News.

7.05 The Restoration Man. Architect George Clarke helps restoration novices Marco and Kath Walker, who have bought a pair of 17th- and 18th-century cow barns in Wellington, Herefordshire. (R)

8.00 Grand Designs. Another chance to see the programme's 100th episode, marked by one of the most ambitious projects to date. Leigh Osborne and Graham Voce want to convert and extend a landmark 150-year-old water tower in central London into a luxury home. Grade II-listed, derelict and with 6ft-thick walls, it's a huge challenge for the pair, who also plan to build two structures at the base – a lift shaft connected by a series of glass tunnels, and a modern living space. The result will be a four-bedroom property over nine floors, complete with a room at the top offering spectacular 360-degree views across the capital. (R)

9.00 Film: X-Men: First Class. (2011) Premiere. Telepathic mutant Charles Xavier forms the first generation of the superhero team in the 1960s. Their battle with a Nazi war criminal manipulating the world toward nuclear war gradually drives a wedge between Xavier and his ally Magneto, leading them to become deadly enemies. Superhero adventure prequel, starring James McAvoy.

11.35 Film: Top Gun. (1986) Aerial action adventure, with Tom Cruise and Kelly McGillis. (R)

1.35 Film: Brazil. (1985) 4.00 Hollyoaks. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 Access. 10.05 Police Interceptors. (R) 11.05 Classic Car Rescue. (R) 12.05 Film: Attack on the Iron Coast. (1968) Second World War drama, starring Lloyd Bridges. 1.55 Film: 633 Squadron. (1964) Second World War drama, starring Cliff Robertson. 3.45 Film: Columbo: The Conspirators. (1978) Detective drama, starring Peter Falk. 5.45 Film: Jesse Stone: Thin Ice. (2009) Detective thriller, starring Tom Selleck.

7.15 Longmire. Walt and Vic try to untangle a web of passion to find out who put a rodeo sponsor in a coma and stole one of his paintings. The prime suspect is a rider who recently had his funding cut amid accusations he was using a cattle prod to agitate the horses. But who was having an affair with the victim? And was the artwork worthless – or priceless? Guest starring Stacy Haiduk (The Young and the Restless).

8.05 NCIS. The body of a Navy lieutenant is discovered floating in a wide-power cut – and because Jefferies and the team are unable to use their modern electronic equipment, they have to solve the case the old-fashioned way, and it soon becomes apparent that national security could be at stake. Drama, starring Mark Harmon, David McCallum, Cote de Pablo, Michael Weatherly and Pauley Perrette. (R)

9.00 NCIS. The agents investigate a government organisation dedicated to child prodigies while researching the death of a marine whose body appeared in the middle of a field disguised as a scarecrow, and realise a 12-year-old could be the killer's next target. Mark Harmon, David McCallum, Cote de Pablo, Michael Weatherly and Pauley Perrette star. (R)

9.55 5 News Weekend.

10.00 Live Boxing: The MaxiNutrition Knockout. Coverage of the semi-finals of the light heavyweight tournament from Leeds Town Hall, which are Bob Aisafe v Leon Senior and Travis Dickinson v Matty Clarkson.

12.15 SuperCasino. Live interactive gaming. 3.15 DIY Dummies. (R) 4.00 Wildlife SOS. (R) 4.25 Make It Big. (R) 4.50 The Funky Valley Show. (R) 5.00 Angels of Jarm. (R) 5.10 Roary the Racing Car. (R) 5.20 Angels of Jarm. (R) 5.30 The Funky Valley Show. (R) 5.40 Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Doctor Who 7.45 Top Gear 8.45 Film: Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest (2006) 11.05 Family Guy 12.35 American Dad! 1.20 Him & Her: The Wedding 3.45 Close

BBC Four
7.00 BBC Young Musician of the Year 2014 8.30 Sounds of the 70s 2 Rock 'n' Roll Revisited – Get It On 9.00 Walford 10.40 The Old Grey Whistle Test: 70s Gold 12.10 The Comet's Tale 1.10 The Sky at Night 1.40 The Horizon Guide to Space Shuttles 2.40 The Search for Life: The Drake Equation 3.40 Close

ITV2
10.00 Tom Daley Goes Global 11.55 Britain's Got Talent 1.00 Britain's Got More Talent 2.00 You've Been Framed! A-Z 3.05 Totally You've Been Framed! 4.10 Film: The Iron Giant (1999) 5.55 Film: Star Wars: Episode III – Revenge of the Sith (2005) 8.50 Britain's Got More Talent 9.50 You've Been Framed! 10.20 Celebrity Juice 11.10 Britain's Got Talent 12.30 Britain's Got More Talent 1.35 Viral Tap 2.15 Dads 3.00 Teleshopping

ITV3
12.35 Jane Eyre 2.45 Agatha Christie's Marple 4.55 Lewis 6.55 Rosemary & Thyme 8.00 Doc Martin 9.00 Foyle's War 11.15 Inspector Morse 1.25 Judge Judy 2.05 ITV3 Nightscreen 2.30 Teleshopping

ITV4
11.30 UEFA Champions League Weekly 12.05 Film: The Far Country (1954) 2.10 Film: Guns of a Stranger (1973) 4.00 Storage Wars 6.00 Film: Kelly's Heroes (1970) 9.00 Film: Absolute Power (1997) 11.20 Film: Firefox (1982) 2.00 Warren United 2.25 Police, Camera, Action! 2.50 ITV4 Nightscreen 3.00 Teleshopping 3.30 The Store 5.00 Teleshopping

E4
1.00 Rude(ish) Tube 2.00 How I Met Your Mother 3.00 The Big Bang Theory 4.00 Made in Chelsea 5.00 Youngers 6.30 How I Met Your Mother 6.30 The Big Bang Theory 7.30 How I Met Your Mother 8.00 The Tomorrow People 9.00 Film: Remember Me (2010) 11.15 The Big Bang Theory 12.15 The Inbetweeners 1.25 Rude Tube 2.25 How I Met Your Mother 3.30 2 Broke Girls 3.55 Made in Chelsea 4.50 Ugly Betty

Film4
11.00 Went the Day Well? (1942) 1.00 Home Alone 2: Lost in New York (1992) 3.15 The Bandit of Sherwood Forest (1946) 4.55 Carry On Abroad (1972) 6.40 The Twilight Saga: Eclipse (2010) 9.00 Monsters (2010) 10.00 Cloverfield (2008) 12.30 AVPR: Aliens vs Predator – Requiem (2007) 2.20 Lake Placid (1999) 4.00 Close

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CHOICE



Dylan Thomas: A Poet in New York (BBC2, 9pm)
October 27, 2014 marks the centenary of the birth of Dylan Thomas, the Swansea-born poet who is now regarded as a giant of 20th-century literature. We can expect heaps of programmes about him in the coming months, but getting in first is this drama about his final days in New York before his death at the age of 39 in November 1953. Tom Hollander plays Thomas, and the story begins as he arrives in the Big Apple, en route to Hollywood where he plans to write an opera with Stravinsky. The trip west is self-funded, but Thomas needs to raise the cash by taking part in a production of Under Milk Wood at Manhattan's prestigious Poetry Centre, followed by a tour of talks and readings – which he would never complete.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Sunday Politics. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Countryfile. (R) **2.10** Flo! (R) **2.50** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.35** Points of View. **3.50** Brazil with Michael Palin. (R) **4.50** Lifestile. **5.00** Songs of Praise. **5.35** RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2014. **6.35** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **7.00** Countryfile Spring Special. The latest rural developments, including reports on issues affecting country communities and insights into the life of the modern farmer. Including Weather for the Week Ahead. **8.00** British Academy Television Awards. Graham Norton hosts the annual ceremony celebrating the best of British TV, held at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane in London. Shows battling for recognition include Southcliffe, The Fall, Broadchurch, The IT Crowd, The Village and Gogglebox, while the entertainment performance category sees Graham himself competing against Ant and Dec, Sarah Millican and Charlie Brooker. Julie Walters will be awarded the Bafta Fellowship, marking a TV career that has taken in everything from Shakespeare to Acorn Antiques. **10.05** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **10.30** Imagine: Rio 50 Degrees – Carry on CaRiOca. New series. Alan Yentob presents another run of arts documentaries. Brazil is less than a month away from hosting the football World Cup and in 2016 the Olympic Games will come to Rio de Janeiro. As the eyes of the world prepare to focus on the city, documentary film-maker Julien Temple explores its cultural history, which is one of extremes. While many see it as a tropical paradise, it remains divided by class and ravaged by poverty, enduring an ongoing fight between police and the drug lords from the slums. The film is soundtrack with the exhilarating samba music that has both reflected and influenced the decades of social change in the city. **12.15** Film: City of Men. (2007) Premiere. Crime drama, with Douglas Silva and Darian Cunha. **1.55** Weatherview. **2.00** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. **6.10** Film: Affair with a Stranger. (1953) **7.35** Film: Safari. (1956) **9.00** Gardeners' World. (R) **9.30** The Beechgrove Garden. **10.00** Live Athletics: Great Manchester Run. **12.30** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. (R) **2.00** Inspire: The Olympic Joke. (R) **11.25** Magazine series presented by Gabby Logan. **2.30** Live Gymnastics: European Championships. The final day of the women's event from Sofia, Bulgaria. **4.30** Triathlon. **6.00** Athletics: Great Manchester Run. Jonathan Edwards presents highlights of the 12th staging of the event, as approximately 40,000 runners took part in a race that has become an annual favourite on the calendar. Several of the leading distance runners in the world were expected to be in attendance, along with a number of celebrity competitors. **7.00** Australia with Simon Reeve. The adventurer meets members of one of the most notorious and feared motorcycle gangs in Gold Coast, before heading to the suburbs to meet a vet and his team rescuing and treating injured koalas. In Sydney, he chats to a billionaire who made his fortune in housing for new migrants from Asia and visits the country's first Muslim women's Australian rules football team. On the last leg of his journey, Simon takes to the air to witness devastating and deadly fires ripping through the Bush, before celebrating Australia Day at his final destination of Melbourne. Last in the series. (R) **8.00** The Best of Top Gear. Another selection of highlights from the last two series, looking back at Jeremy Clarkson, Richard Hammond and James May's most memorable stunts and best challenges. **9.00** Dylan Thomas: A Poet in New York. Tom Hollander stars in this drama charting the poet's final days. In 1953 Dylan Thomas went to New York for the last time, his marriage a wreck and his drinking out of control. He was on his way to meet Stravinsky and to bask in New York acclaim – but what was he escaping and how did the intended triumph become a requiem? **10.20** Film: Edge of Darkness. (2010) Thriller, starring Mel Gibson, Ray Winstone and Danny Huston. **12.05** Film: Sus. (2010) **1.35** Film: Catch a Fire. (2006) **3.10** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **4.05** Holly City. (R) **5.05** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Dino Dan. **6.25** Matt Hatter Chronicles. (R) **6.50** Canimals. (R) **7.05** Sooty. (R) **7.20** Digimon Fusion. (R) **7.45** Horrid Henry. (R) **8.00** Big Time Rush. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** May the Best House Win. (R) **10.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.25** Love Your Garden. (R) **12.25** ITV News: Weather. **12.35** Big Star's Little Star. (R) **1.40** The Chase. (R) **2.35** Britain's Got Talent. (R) **3.55** You've Been Framed! (R) **4.20** Midsomer Murders. (R) **6.20** Regional Programme; Weather. **6.30** ITV News; Weather. **6.45** Catchphrase. Stephen Mulhern hosts the game show in which three contestants guess the familiar phrases hidden in animated clues, before one of them plays to win £50,000. **7.30** Off Their Rockers. Keith Barters for a new TV. Sonia needs to be unlocked from her bedstead, Dave referees a football game and Rosie and Marry find out who is the best kisser. Last in the series. **8.00** Vera. The detective investigates the mysterious death of businessman John Shearwood, found floating in the water under the Gateshead Millennium Bridge when he was supposed to be on a golfing trip to Ireland. The man's wife Stella and brother Luke are baffled to discover he was working as an informant for HM Revenue and Customs. Chief Revenue investigator Owen Prece (guest star Robert Glenister) reveals John's business manager Mark Donovan has been running an alcohol scam through their haulage firm and the deceased had agreed to offer information in exchange for immunity from prosecution. Was his cover blown? Owen doesn't think so, and Mark has an alibi – unlike John's wife. Last in the series. **10.00** Perspectives: Freddie Mercury Saved My Life with Alfie Boe. The tenor explores the rock star's life and work, discussing his legacy with those who knew him best, including Queen guitarist Brian May, and asking what made Freddie an icon. **11.00** ITV News; Weather. **11.15** Premiership Rugby Union. Mark Durden-Smith presents highlights of the semi-finals. **12.15** The Store. **2.45** Motorsport UK. **3.35** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **4.20** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** Rory Bremner's Great British Views. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.15 British F3 International Series. **6.40** How I Met Your Mother. **7.05** How I Met Your Mother. **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **8.55** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** Secret Eaters. (R) **1.35** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **2.05** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **2.35** The Simpsons. (R) **3.05** The Simpsons. (R) **3.30** Film: Tooth Fairy. (2010) Family comedy, starring Dwayne Johnson. **5.35** Deal or No Deal. **6.30** Channel 4 News. **7.00** Four Rooms. New series. Members of the pub's aim to sell prized possessions to dealers specialising in art, collectibles and antiques, and gamble their offers in a bid to make their fortunes. Gordon Watson, Celia Sawyer, Alex Proud and David Sonnenhal appraise a punchbag once owned by Muhammad Ali, a Bee Gees guitar, a pair of giant angel wings, a unique armchair and a mysterious portrait with a six-figure price tag. **8.00** For the Love of Cars. The 1945 MG-TC was the little car that broke America, paving the way for the mass export of British sports two-seaters for the next 30 years. As Ant Anstead restores one to its former glory, Philip Glenister experiences the feeling of racing this classic vehicle around one of the nation's oldest motorsport venues at speeds of almost 70mph. He also meets a 90-year-old former GI who bought his MG-TC in his twenties and still takes it for regular jaunts around the Hollywood Hills. **9.00** Fanny. When Lester has a close call, Molly makes an unorthodox decision, while Gus weighs up some neighbourly advice and Malvo gets what he wants. Black comedy-drama inspired by the Coen brothers' film, starring Martin Freeman, Billy Bob Thornton, Allison Tolman and Colin Hanks. **10.05** Film: The Wolfman. (2010) A Victorian actor investigating his brother's disappearance is attacked by a strange creature and succumbs to a family curse. Horror, starring Benicio Del Toro and Anthony Hopkins. **12.05** Film: Dorian Gray. (2009) **1.55** Southland. **2.40** Utopia. (R) **3.50** Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners. (R) **4.45** Four Rooms. (R) **5.40** SuperScrimers. (R) **5.50** Deal or No Deal. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Filth and the Flowerrots. (R) **6.25** Bubble Guppies. (R) **6.40** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.50** Chloe's Closet. **7.00** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.20** Make Way for Maddy. (R) **7.35** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **7.40** City of Friends. (R) **7.55** Little Princess. (R) **8.05** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.20** Mio Mao. (R) **8.25** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.45** Rupert Bear. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.35** LazyTown. (R) **10.00** Power Rangers Super Samurai. (R) **10.35** Power Rangers Megaforce. (R) **11.10** Beware! Cowboy Builders. (R) **12.10** The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R) **1.10** Film: CutThroat Island. (1995) Swashbuckling adventure, starring Geena Davis. **3.35** Film: Around the World in 80 Days. (2004) Comedy adventure, starring Steve Coogan and Jackie Chan. **5.50** News Weekend. **5.55** Film: Ace Ventura: Pet Detective. (1994) Comedy, starring Jim Carrey. **7.35** Film: X2. (2003) Mutant heroes the X-Men are forced into an uneasy alliance with arch-enemy Magneto to battle a common foe. Following an attempt on the president's life, a sinister military scientist launches a raid to Professor Xavier's school and hatches a plan to rid the world of all mutants. Superhero adventure sequel, starring Hugh Jackman, Patrick Stewart, Ian McKellen, Alan Cumming, Halle Berry and Brian Cox. Edited for violence, language and flashing images. **10.00** Film: 21 Jump Street. (2012) Premiere. Two youthful-looking cops are sent undercover as high-school students to expose a drugs ring. Comedy inspired by the 1980s TV series, with Jonah Hill and Channing Tatum. Edited for language. **12.15** Police Interceptors. A monster-truck driver tries to give officers the slip. (R) **1.10** SuperCasino. Live interactive gaming. **3.10** Classic Car Rescue. Bernie Fineman and Mario Pacione set out to restore a 1960s VW camper van. (R) **4.00** Wildlife SOS. The work of an animal sanctuary. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. Jess gets a warning from HQ. (R) **4.50** The Funky Valley Show. Norris opens a rival milk bar. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. Aaron draws a star with six points. (R) **5.10** Roary the Racing Car. A film director visits Silver Hatch. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.30** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Great Movie Mistakes **7.25** Film: Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End (2007) **10.00** In the Flesh **11.00** Family Guy **11.45** American Dad! **12.30** Jonah from Tonga **1.00** In the Flesh **2.00** Tiger Takes on Porn **2.55** In the Flesh **3.55** Close

BBC Four
7.00 BBC Young Musician of the Year 2014 **9.30** A Writer's Journey from There to Here – Peter Bowker **10.00** Eric & Ernie **11.30** Kings of Rock 'n' Roll **12.30** Rock 'n' Roll Britannia **1.30** The Doors: The Story of LA Woman **2.30** The Final Frontier? A Horizon Guide to the Universe

ITV2
12.10 Film: The Mighty Ducks (1992) **2.25** Film: Nanny McPhee (2005) **4.25** Britain's Got Talent **5.45** Britain's Got More Talent **6.45** You've Been Framed! Family Special **7.30** Film: Star Wars: Episode IV – A New Hope (1977) **10.00** Viral Tap **10.45** Film: Saw II (2005) **12.50** Mom **1.20** Viral Tap **2.00** The Vampire Diaries **2.45** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3
12.35 Inspector Morse **2.55** Rosemary & Thyme **4.05** Film: Seabiscuit (2003) **6.50** The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes **8.00** It'll Be Alright on the Night's Best of the Worst **9.00** Birds of a Feather **10.00** Film: Bird on a Wire (1990) **12.20** William and Mary **1.20** Agatha Christie's Marple **3.00** Movies Now **3.10** ITV3 Nightscreen **3.40** Emmerdale

ITV4
11.00 Live Indian Premier League Cricket. Chennai Super Kings v Royal Challengers Bangalore and Sunrisers Hyderabad v Kolkata Knight Riders. **8.00** Premiership Rugby Union **9.00** Film: Space Cowboys (2000) **11.35** Film: Absolute Power (1997) **2.05** Back on the Job: Shane Lynch **3.00** Teleshopping **3.30** The Store **5.00** Teleshopping

E4
12.30 Youngers **1.00** Made in Chelsea **2.00** Revenge **3.00** How I Met Your Mother **4.00** The Big Bang Theory **5.00** The Tomorrow People **6.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **6.30** The Big Bang Theory **7.00** Troy **8.00** Film: 17 Again (2009) **10.05** The Inbetweeners **11.15** The Big Bang Theory **12.05** Rude Tube **1.05** Troy **1.15** Rules of Engagement **2.55** 2 Broke Girls **3.20** Hollyoaks

Film4
11.00 Bend of the River (1952) **1.00** Dragonball Evolution (2009) **2.40** Love Happens (2009) **4.50** Just Wright (2010) **6.45** Letters to Juliet (2010) **9.00** Salt (2010) **10.55** The Running Man (1987) **12.50** Leaving Las Vegas (1995) **3.10** Close

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Film Choices

Monday
Valkyrie, Channel 5, 10.35pm
As the tide of the Second World War turns in favour of the Allies, a group of senior German officers recruit war hero Colonel Claus von Stauffenberg to spearhead an attempt to assassinate Adolf Hitler using a briefcase bomb. Starring Tom Cruise, Kenneth Branagh, Bill Nighy and Tom Wilkinson. (2008)

Tuesday
Jindabyne, BBC1, 11.40pm
Four men on a fishing trip discover the body of a murdered Aboriginal girl, but decide not to contact the police until after returning home days later. However, when the news breaks in their small town, they are ostracised by the community, and one of their wives becomes obsessed with making amends. Drama, starring Gabriel Byrne and Laura Linney. (2006)

Wednesday
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1, ITV, 7.30pm
The dark lord Voldemort rises to ultimate power over the magical world, so the teenage wizard and his friends set out on a mission to find the magical horcruxes. The first half of the two-part conclusion to the fantasy saga, starring Daniel Radcliffe, Ralph Fiennes, Emma Watson and Rupert Grint. (2010)



Valkyrie, Monday, Channel 5, 10.35pm

Thursday
Concrete Canyons, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A wilderness tracker travels to Chicago when he learns his son is a murder suspect and has gone missing. He joins forces with the homicide detective handling the case, intending to use his skills to both find his son and identify the real killer. Mystery, starring Scott Patterson, Polly Shannon and Emilie Ullerup. (2010)

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2, ITV, 7.30pm
The young wizard continues his search for the artefacts containing fragments of the dark lord Voldemort's soul. Time is running out, as the evil sorcerer is aware of Harry's mission, and marshals his forces for a final, devastating attack on Harry and his friends at Hogwarts school. Conclusion of the fantasy saga, with Daniel Radcliffe, Ralph Fiennes, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson and Alan Rickman. (2011)

Friday
Die Another Day, ITV, 10.35pm
James Bond is suspended from duty after being taken hostage in North Korea, but goes against orders to track down those who betrayed him. Spy adventure, starring Pierce Brosnan, Halle Berry, Toby Stephens, Judi Dench and John Cleese. (2002)

Pick of the Week

The final chapter of a remarkable life is told

October 27, 2014 marks the centenary of the birth of Dylan Thomas, the Swansea-born poet who is now regarded as a giant of 20th-century literature.

We can expect heaps of programmes about him in the coming months (including a performance of his most famous work, Under Milk Wood, featuring a cast of famous Welsh faces, including Tom Jones, Siân Phillips and Matthew Rhys), but getting in first is this drama, **Dylan Thomas: A Poet in New York, BBC2, 9pm** about his final days before his death at the age of 39 in 1953.

Tom Hollander plays Thomas, despite admitting that he wasn't particularly a fan before filming began.

"I was aware of him although I didn't know his poetry very well, but I got exposed to his best poetry," says the actor. "I liked the way Andrew Davies had dramatised this man running out of road, as it were, in his life. He'd done it really well – he's a great writer. That they should have even offered it to me was a wonderful thing."

As well as his writing, Thomas was famous for his voice thanks to the

numerous times he appeared in public to read his own work – and getting his vocal characteristics right was crucial to Hollander's performance.

"Because he's a very well recorded performer, it was very easy to discover what he sounded like as a recording artist. It was harder to find out what he sounded like as a man. I sense that he was putting on a performing voice, a declamatory poetry style, but he can't have been talking like that in real life. Or maybe he was..."

Although the focus of A Poet in New York is on the latter part of Thomas's life, there are scenes in which he's a younger man, which gave Hollander a weighty problem – Thomas piled on the pounds during his later years, becoming bloated thanks to his love of the demon drink.

"Eating a lot made me feel ill and the whole thing made me feel dreadful. Without going into the details of it there were unpleasant physical side effects of overeating."

The story begins as Thomas arrives in the Big Apple, en route to

Hollywood where he plans to write an opera with Stravinsky.

The trip west is self-funded, but Thomas needs to raise the cash by taking part in a production of Under Milk Wood at Manhattan's prestigious Poetry Centre, followed by a tour of talks and readings. But he never completed them.

Friends later remarked how ill he looked during his stay in New York, and he was taken sick on several occasions before finally going gentle into that good night following a four-day coma.

"It's a sympathetic portrayal of self-destruction and it allows you to get inside him," explains Hollander.

"Tales of self-destruction themselves are often not fun to watch, but it's because you see the two things at the same time – you see the poetry and everything that was greatest about him at the same time as you're seeing him destroy himself."

The excellent supporting cast includes Essie Davis, Phoebe Fox, Ewen Bremner, Celi Llewellyn Jones, Jamie Ballard, Demetri Goritsas and Jason May.



Tom Hollander stars in Dylan Thomas: A Poet in New York, Sunday, BBC2, 9pm

Best of the Rest

Monday
RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2014, BBC2, 8pm
In the last couple of years, the younger generation have grown to love Chelsea as the high-powered, hotbed of arguments that famous reality programme shows it to be. However, for many, it's the colourful sprawling garden designs of the Chelsea Flower Show that the area will always really be famous for. As always, the BBC is doing everything it can to ensure those not fortunate enough to attend the event can get the full experience from the comfort of their own homes. Monty Don and Joe Swift launch the week of programmes from the horticultural event. Plus, Sherlock star Benedict Cumberbatch and his actress mother Wanda Ventham share their favourite Chelsea moments.

D-Day's Sunken Secrets, Channel 5, 9pm
An evening of history lessons on Channel 5 begins here, with an expedition to look for military items from the Normandy landings. A group of historians, wreck detectives, scientists and D-Day veterans board two mini-submarines to scour the seabed for objects from the landings of June 1944 – and it's not a task carried out in vain. On the bottom of the ocean, the group comes across a collection of American Sherman tanks that were specially adapted to float, and the wreck of the SS Leopoldville, a troopship hit by a German U-boat with the loss of 800 lives. Meanwhile, veteran Bill Allen, submariner Jim Booth and Tim Beckett, whose father designed a deep-sea harbour used to supply the invasion, give their accounts.

Tuesday
Ben Fogle's Animal Clinic, Channel 5, 8pm
In the latest instalment, the 'aww' factor is turned up a notch as cardiologist Jo carries out complex surgery to fit a pacemaker to Kasey, a German wire-haired pointer. Kasey is 10-years old, and until recently used to take part in field trials, but had to give that up when his heart condition got worse. Meanwhile, over at Chester zoo, Gabby's got her hands full in trying to get a blood sample from a female giraffe six metres tall. Plus, on-call equine surgeon Neil Townsend has to carry out emergency surgery on a foal with life-threatening abdominal pains.

Mr Drew's School for Boys, Channel 4, 9pm
The headteachers of Channel 4's Educating series are making quite an impact – and not only on the students they teach. While we hanker for another series of the Yorkshire counterpart with Mr Mitchell, Mr Drew down in Essex has been tiding us over, with his strict but fair ways of bringing these wayward boys up to scratch. But here's where we see if all his hard work has paid off, as there are just a few days until the boys leave for home. Mr Drew and his team are preparing their students for their return to regular school, but an end-of-term camping trip could go one of two ways, as the parents regain control.



Jack Taylor: The Dramatist, Wednesday, Channel 5, 10pm

Wednesday
Jack Taylor: The Dramatist, Channel 5, 10pm
Iain Glen returns as the eponymous Irish ex-cop who defends the lost and broken folks of Galway. In this episode, our hero investigates the death of student Sarah Bradley, who dies after falling from the roof of the university. She is dressed in a theatrical costume and a ring of paper wrapped around her hand contains a typed message. The police assume she committed suicide under the influence of heroin, but Professor Gorman does not accept the Garda's theory and thinks his literature student has been murdered.

With help from sidekick, Cody, he tries to get to the bottom of the case. Good support comes from Killian Scott and Nora Jane Noone.

Thursday
Beware! Cowboy Builders, Channel 5, 8pm
Viewers with long memories may recall a particularly devastating edition of Cowboy Builders from 2009, when the show came to the aid of Stuart and Michelle Trigg in Thornbury, Gloucestershire. The couple's problems began when they enlisted some 'professional' help to build an extension for their

left with an unfinished, unsafe and thoroughly botched job. In this programme, the last in the current series, Dominic Littlewood and Gabrielle Blackman head back to the West Country to see how the poor, put-upon Trigg family are getting on.

From There to Here, BBC1, 9pm
Philip Glenister stars in this drama about a man whose life changes for ever after he is caught up in the 1996 IRA bomb blast that rocked Manchester. Escaping serious injury, Daniel comes to the rescue of a single mother and helps her home, realising she lives in the working-class neighbourhood where he grew up, before he was adopted and went on to live a more charmed life. Now he has it all – wife, kids, his own business – but he is feeling restless after his near-death experience. Saskia Reeves, Steven Mackintosh, Liz White and Bernard Hill co-star.

Friday
Gogglebox, Channel 4, 9pm
The Royle Family's Caroline Aherne narrates a final visit to the living rooms of some of Britain's most opinionated TV fanatics as the third series of Gogglebox draws to a close. Posh tipplers Steph and Dom, hairdressers Christopher and Stephen, the lovable Leon and June and other favourites offer sharp, insightful, passionate and sometimes emotional critiques of the week's television from the comfort of their own sofas, fiercely discussing everything from talent contests to topical documentaries. Last in the series.

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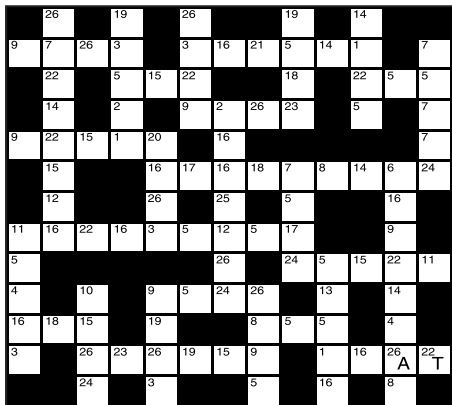
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Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
I	D	H	B	J	F	G	Z	M	L	A	X	S
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
E	P	Q	Y	K	T	N	C	R	O	U	W	V

1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22 T
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26 A

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

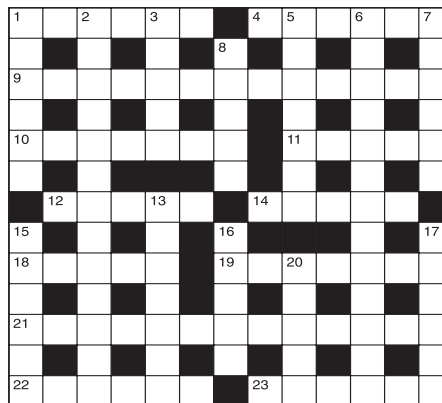
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- Back up the others who couldn't come cleaner (6)
- They are turned on, of course, when working (6)
- Whitehead arranged composition by wealthy composer (7,6)
- Being unsteady, Eric takes in deserter (7)
- It may be put in a quiver, of course (5)
- Lower a foundation (5)
- Dusty den? (5)
- Shout for joy at the sight of food (5)
- Base tackle for taking a rise (3,4)
- Fail to understand and so annihilate? (4,7,2)
- He may well hope for return out of play (6)
- Guard at the southern gate (6)

Down

- Beer for the janitor (6)
- The biggest smash-hit of all? (6-7)
- Begin to show shock (5)
- Very hard worker is under the first man (7)
- Sounds as if a number are delayed by a collection of stones (13)
- They have a driver to drive them home (6)
- Cited an official pronouncement (5)
- Alien telephoned in the outset (7)
- The rascals put up their tent in a ship! (6)
- The clergy - many in a small church (5)
- Cunning but skilled? (6)
- Don't claim a view (5)



Quick Clues:

Across

- Scales (6)
- Adhesive (6)
- Refractoriness (13)
- Merciful (7)
- Correct (5)
- Started (5)
- Ladder (5)
- Grown-up (5)
- Blow up (7)
- Thought (13)
- Constant (6)
- Rested (6)

Down

- Coagulate (6)
- Unimportance (13)
- Protuberance (5)
- Plague (7)
- Pondering (13)
- Cedes (6)
- Merriment (5)
- Not tested (7)
- Cuts open (6)
- Collier (5)
- Wrote (6)
- Signal light (5)

Sudoku

		5		4	8			1
	1		6	2		3		
		2					6	
	9				1	8		
2		4			6	9		5
		1	2				7	
	8					5		
		6		8	7			9
1			3	6		4		7

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

5	4	3	9	1	8	2	7	6
2	8	1	7	5	6	3	9	4
9	6	7	3	4	2	8	1	5
7	5	8	4	6	1	9	2	3
4	1	6	2	3	9	5	8	7
3	9	2	5	8	7	4	6	1
8	2	5	1	7	4	6	3	9
1	3	9	6	2	5	7	4	8
6	7	4	8	9	3	1	5	2

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Fall through; 9 Thistle;
10 Arena; 11 Gusto; 12 Elector; 13 Feline;
15 Starve; 18 Insect; 20 Roost; 22 Hoist; 23 Theatre; 24 Escape route. Down: 2 Emits; 3 Let-down; 4 Heeled; 5 Orate; 6 Greater; 7 Stage fright; 8 Fair weather; 14 Lassies; 16 Torpedo; 17 Statue; 19 Extra; 21 Octet. QUICK - Across: 1 Environment; 9 Eminent; 10 Rogue; 11 Expert; 12 Congeal; 13 Burial; 15 Critic; 18 Augment; 20 Charm; 22 Comma; 23 Britain; 24 Antecedents. Down: 2 Noise; 3 Inertia; 4 Optics; 5 Moron; 6 Neglect; 7 Resemblance; 8 Replacement; 14 Regiment; 16 Receive; 17 Stable; 19 Evade; 21 Adapt.

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It is for sale through Edwards Moore at £340,000.

Situated along the A34 on the corner of Long Lane and with gas central heating and double glazing, it has a reception hall, a recently re-fitted breakfast kitchen with an electric oven, gas hob, extractor hood, fridge, freezer, a dining room opening into a lounge, three bedrooms, a re-fitted part tiled family bathroom, annexe with a large living area and a re-fitted tiled ground floor bathroom, two first floor bedrooms (both with re-fitted en-suite shower rooms), plus good sized fore, side and rear gardens.

Situated in a popular location between Bloxwich and Great Wyrley centres along the A34, the property is approached via electrically operated gates leading to a large frontage with tremendous potential.

For more details contact Edwards Moore on 01922 621411 or go online and visit the website at www.edwardsmoore.co.uk



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- EPC Rating E

Offers in Excess of £220,000



- Three Bedroom End Terrace
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- Third Bedroom With En-Suite
- EPC Rating E

£164,950



- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached Home
- Beautiful Garden
- Spacious Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner

£600

Dagger Lane, West Bromwich



- Four Bedroom Semi-Detached Home
- Two Lovely Reception Rooms
- Extended Fully Equipped Kitchen
- EPC Rating D

£249,950



- Three Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- Open Plan Kitchen/Diner
- OPEN DAY THURSDAY 15th MAY FROM 4PM
- EPC Rating D

£139,950



- 4 Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- Large Rear Garden
- Double Bedrooms
- Bathroom with Shower

£745 + Fees Apply

Doulton Drive, Smethwick



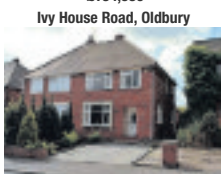
- Modern Five Bedroom Townhouse
- Sleek Integrated Kitchen
- Master Bedroom with fitted wardrobe
- EPC Rating D

£218,000



- Improved Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Newly Refurbished Modern Kitchen
- Large Gated Driveway to Fit Up To Four Cars
- EPC Rating C

£134,950



- Semi Detached Three Bedroom
- Modern Kitchen
- Two Reception Rooms
- Modern and Clean Decor

£550 + Fees Apply

Newcomen Drive, Tipton



- Detached Four Bedroom Family Home
- Extended To The Rear
- Garage & Large Driveway
- EPC Rating D

£194,950



- Three Bedroom Terraced Property
- Excellent As An Investment
- Two Reception Rooms
- EPC Rating D

Offers in Excess of £99,950



- Three Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- Corner Plot Located in a Quite Cul De Sac
- Open Plan Kitchen And Diner
- EPC Rating C

£550 + Fees Apply

Ivanhoe Road, Great Barr



- Traditional Three Bedroom Detached Home
- Extended Kitchen
- Downstairs Modern Wet Room
- EPC Rating F

£175,000



- Semi-detached Three Bedroom Town House
- Three Modern Bathrooms
- Spacious and Light Living Area
- EPC Rating C

£149,950



- Cozy Home in Smethwick
- Fully Furnished
- Kitchen with Utilities
- Two Double Bedrooms

£550 + Fees Apply

Stanley Avenue, Harborne



- Traditional Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Driveway To Fit Two Cars
- Large Utility Room
- EPC Rating D

£165,000



- Two Bedroom Semi Detached Property
- Spacious Light Reception Room
- Two Good Sized Bedrooms
- EPC Rating D

Offers in Excess of £95,950*



- Three Bedroom Mid Terrace
- Through Lounge
- Refurbished Kitchen and Bathroom
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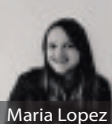
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No Upfront Costs



Latoya Davis



Maria Lopez



Sukhi Chall



Asif Kola



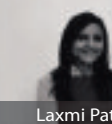
Catalina Lopez



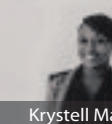
Bobby Singh



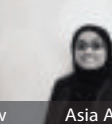
Ken Parsons



Laxmi Patel



Krystell Marlow



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WALSALL



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BORDESLEY GREEN



THE ASTON HOTEL,
393 WITTON ROAD, ASTON



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**VIEW: TUESDAY 20th MAY @ 2.00 p.m. &
THURSDAY 22nd MAY @ 2.00 p.m.**

71 THE LINDENS, NEWBRIDGE, WOLVERHAMPTON

Well positioned First Floor Flat
with pleasant outlook
Private Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Double
Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage
Guide: £53,000 / £58,000

VIEW;

**FRIDAY 16th MAY @ 1.45 p.m. &
SATURDAY 17th MAY @ 10.30 a.m.**

1 LEICESTER STREET, WHITMORE REANS, WOLVERHAMPTON

Prominent position - Semi-Detached
close to all local amenities
Gas CH, Two Reception, Kitchen, spacious
Bathroom, Three Bedrooms (wc & wash
basin En Suite to Bed 3), Rear Garden
Guide: £75,000 / £80,000

VIEW;

**FRIDAY 16th MAY @ 2.30 p.m. &
SATURDAY 17th MAY @ 11.15 a.m.**

71 STOURBRIDGE ROAD, SCOTTS GREEN, DUDLEY

(Access between Nos. 69 & 73)
Brick built Worship Hall (now redundant)
Reception Hall, Main Hall 40ft. x 19ft.,
ante-Room / Kitchen, w.c., Cellar.
Outside: Gents' W.C.
Guide: £30,000 / £35,000

**VIEW; THURSDAY 15th MAY @
12.00 noon & TUESDAY 20th MAY
@ 12.00 noon**

22 WOODHALL ROAD, PENN

Popular residential area - Smart, well presented extended Three Bed Detached
Porch, Reception Hall, fitted Cloakroom, Lounge, Dining Room, fine Dining Kitchen,
Laundry, galleried Landing, large Bathroom, Garage, Store, lovely Garden
Guide: £195,000 / £205,000

VIEW;

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY,
16th & 17th MAY @ 12.00 noon**

Nos. 502 / 502A STAFFORD ROAD, WOLVERHAMPTON

Commercial Investment - part vacant (No.
502) Prominently situated Shop Premises in
busy area Main Shop, two additional Rooms,
internal and external w.c.s. First Floor (502A)
separately accessed, Landing, Four Rooms,
w.c. Outside: Potential parking bay
Guide: £100,000 / £110,000

VIEW;

**THURSDAY 15th MAY @ 10.15 a.m. &
TUESDAY 20th MAY @ 10.15 a.m.**

11 CHURCHFIELD AVENUE, TIPTON

Smartly presented and amazingly spacious
Three Bedroomed Flat
Lounge, Balcony, fitted Dining Kitchen,
Bathroom, Separate w.c., Gas CH to
radiators
Guide: £33,000 / £38,000

VIEW;

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY,
16th & 17th MAY @ 10.00 a.m.**

100 WANDERERS AVENUE, BLAKENHALL, WOLVERHAMPTON

On corner position, impressive accommodation,
Gas CH., Two Reception, large well appointed
Kitchen, Study / Games' Room, Bathroom, Four
Bedrooms, Shower Room, Attic Bedroom 5.
Vehicular access at side
Guide: £103,000 / £105,000

VIEW;

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY,
16th & 17th MAY @ 11.00 a.m.**

79 MERRIDALE ROAD, WOLVERHAMPTON

Close to City Centre, large Victorian House
Hall, Two Reception, Dining Kitchen, big Laundry, Shower Room
Five Bedrooms, Bathroom, drive and walled Rear Garden area
Guide: £153,000 / £158,000

VIEW:

FRIDAY 16th MAY @ 1.00 p.m.

BRIDGNORTH ROAD, WIGHTWICK, WOLVERHAMPTON

A Plot of Freehold Land with 100ft. (approx.)
road frontage and
Vehicular access (shared) -
may suit a variety of uses subject
to Planning
Guide: £15,000 / £20,000

HEATHTON / DRAYCOTT, CLAVERLEY

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Land, fully enclosed and with
road access - ideal pony paddock
Guide: £35,000 / £40,000

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46 High Road, Lane Head, Willenhall, WV12 4JQ



<p>NEW INSTRUCTION</p> <p>FOR SALE</p> <p>CASTLE DRIVE, WILLENHALL Two Bedroom Semi Detached Bungalow Located On The Popular Hayes Estate. Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms And Bathroom. Also With Garage And Off Road Parking.</p> <p>£129,995</p>	<p>NEW INSTRUCTION</p> <p>FOR SALE</p> <p>RAVENSCROFT RD, WILLENHALL Extended Three Bedroom Semi Adapted To Allow For Disabled Living. Comprising Of Lounge, Kitchen, Dining Room And Adjoining Wet Room, Three Good Sized Bedrooms And Family Bathroom.</p> <p>£139,995</p>	<p>REDUCED</p> <p>FOR SALE</p> <p>ALVINGTON CL, WILLENHALL Four Bed Semi Having Entrance Porch, Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen/ Diner, Generous Conservatory, Playroom/Bedroom Four, Refitted Bathroom, UPVC D/ Glazing, C/Heating & Block Paved Driveway.</p> <p>£140,000</p>	<p>NEW INSTRUCTION</p> <p>FOR SALE</p> <p>PRINCETHORPE RD, WILLENHALL Superbly Presented Four Bedroom Town House Comprising Of Lounge, Ground Floor W.C, Sitting Room, Modern Kitchen/Diner, Four Bedrooms, En-suite Shower Room To Master Bed And Family Bathroom.</p> <p>£167,995</p>				
<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>LINDEN CLOSE, BENTLEY Two Bed Maisonette Comprising Of Entrance Porch, Inner Hallway, Modern Fitted Breakfast Kitchen, Spacious Lounge Diner, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/ Glazing, Electric Heating, Secure Fenced Communal Area To The Rear. Great FTB Or BTL Investment.</p> <p>£62,995</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>GIPSY LANE, WILLENHALL Three Bed Mid Terraced Property Having Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor Bathroom, C/Heating, D/Glazing. Close To Willenhall Town Centre Giving Access To Good Local Amenities, Schools and Transport Links. Great Investment Property.</p> <p>£74,995</p>	<p>REDUCED</p> <p>FOR SALE</p> <p>VICTORIA ST, WILLENHALL Well Presented Two Bed Mid Terraced Property Having Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, IDEAL FIRST TIME BUY OR BUY TO LET!</p> <p>£74,995</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>STEPHENSON AVE, BEECHDALE REDUCED Well Presented Two Bed End Terrace Having Entrance Hall, Spacious Rear Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Dining Room, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, C/Heating, D/ Glazing & Creta Print Driveway.</p> <p>£79,995</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>VICTORIA ST, WILLENHALL Spacious Victorian Mid Terraced Property Having Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, First Floor Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing, Gas C/Heating And Enclosed Rear Garden.</p> <p>£87,995</p>	<p>REDUCED</p> <p>FOR SALE</p> <p>TINTERN CRES, MOSSLEY Three Bed Mid Town House OPEN VIEWING: SAT 17TH MAY: 11.30 am - 1.00pm MUST VIEW FTB Or BTL.</p> <p>£87,995</p>	<p>NEW INSTRUCTION</p> <p>FOR SALE</p> <p>SQUIRES GROVE, NEW INVENTION Two Bedroom First Floor Apartment, Superbly Presented Accommodation Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Two Good Sized Bedrooms With En-Suite To Master And Family Bathroom.</p> <p>£89,950</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>CHAUCER AVE, WILLENHALL Two Bed Mid Terraced Property Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Side Storage Area, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing, C/ Heating And Enclosed Rear Garden.</p> <p>£89,995</p>
<p>REDUCED</p> <p>FOR SALE</p> <p>REDWOOD WAY, COPPICE FARM Immaculately Presented One Bed Ground Floor Flat Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Modern Fitted Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Rear Garden And Driveway.</p> <p>£89,995</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>SQUIRES GR, NEW INVENTION Two Bed Modern First Floor Apartment Having Communal Entrance Hall, Private Hallway, Spacious Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Master With En-Suite, Family Bathroom, Electric Heating, UPVC Double Glazing And Allocated Parking.</p> <p>£89,995</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>POOLES LANE, SHORT HEATH A Well Presented Three Bedroom End Of Terrace Having Front Reception Room, Rear Reception Room Being Open Plan Into Modern Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor Family Bathroom, Three Bedrooms, First Floor Separate W.C, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Good Sized Rear Garden And No Upward Chain.</p> <p>£89,995</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>BLOXWICH RD, LEAMORE Spacious Two Bed Semi Having Entrance Porch, Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom With Separate Shower Cubicle, UPVC D/Glazing, C/Heating, Enclosed Rear Garden And Off Road Parking.</p> <p>£95,000</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>WYCHBOLD CLOSE, NEW INVENTION Well Presented Three Bed End Town House Having Entrance Porch, Hallway, Ground Floor W.C, Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Lounge, Family Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing, Majority C/Heating And Enclosed Rear Garden.</p> <p>£106,995</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>LIME AVE, BENTLEY Three Bedroom Mid Terrace House Having Lounge, Dining Room Fitted Kitchen, Separate Utility Area, Three Bedrooms, Fitted Shower Room, Separate W.C, D/Glazing, C/ Heating, Off Road Parking And Rear Garden.</p> <p>£109,995</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>WILLENHALL ST, DARLSTON Modern Three Bed Semi-Detached Property Having Entrance Hall, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, Ground Floor W.C, Three Bedrooms, Modern Family Bathroom, C/Heating, D/Glazing & Allocated Parking.</p> <p>£109,995</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>THE CRESCENT, WILLENHALL Modern Two Bed Semi Having Lounge With Open Plan Staircase, Kitchen Diner, Conservatory, Two Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/ Glazing, C/Heating, Block Paved Driveway To The Fore Allowing Off Road Parking For Two Vehicles And A Private Enclosed Rear Garden.</p> <p>£112,500</p>
<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>UPLANDS RD, PORTOBELLO Extended Two Bedroom Family Bungalow Having Entrance Porch, Inner Hallway, Feature 26ft Lounge, Separate Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Utility Area, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom With Shower, Garage, C/Garden And Driveway.</p> <p>£119,995</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>UPLANDS GR, PORTOBELLO Extended Two Bed Semi Having Entrance Porch, Hallway, Lounge, Separate Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Utility Area, Two Double Bedrooms, Loft Storage Room, Family Bathroom C/ Heating, UPVC D/Glazing, Garage, Block Paved Driveway.</p> <p>£119,995</p>	<p>NEW INSTRUCTION</p> <p>FOR SALE</p> <p>GRIFFITHS DR, ASHMORE PARK Three Bed Semi Detached House Comprising Of Lounge, Modern Kitchen/Diner, Utility Room, Three Good Sized Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Corner Plot Giving Gardens To Front, Rear & Side Driveway.</p> <p>£127,500</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>STUBBINGTON CL, PORTOBELLO Spacious Two Bedroom Detached Bungalow, Comprises Of Entrance Hallway, Spacious Lounge, Sunroom, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms Both With Fitted Wardrobes And Family Bathroom. Also Benefitting From UPVC Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Detached Garage And Driveway, Good Transport Links To Wolverhampton, Willenhall, Stilton & Walsall.</p> <p>£129,995</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>WOODSIDE WAY, SHORT HEATH Well Presented Extended Two Bedroom Semi Detached Property Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Two Bedrooms, Family Bathroom And Detached Garage, Part D/Glazing & C/Heating, Must View!</p> <p>£131,995</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>SQUIRES GR, NEW INVENTION Modern Two Bed End Town House Comprising Of Entrance Hallway, Ground Floor W.C, Fitted Kitchen, Spacious Lounge, Two Double Bedrooms With En-Suite, D/ Glazing, C/Heating And Separate Garage.</p> <p>£132,995</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>WILLOW GROVE, WILLENHALL Three Storey Three Bed Town House Having Entrance Hallway, Ground Floor W.C, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms To The First Floor, Family Bathroom, Master To The Second Floor With En-Suite, & Garage.</p> <p>£134,950</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>SANDRINGHAM AVE, W-HALL Three Bed Semi Detached Property Having Entrance Porch, Entrance Hallway, Spacious Through Lounge/ Diner, Extended Kitchen, Refitted Family Bathroom, Hardwood D/ Glazing, C/Heating, Garage & Driveway.</p> <p>£134,995</p>
<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>ENSURBY CLOSE, WILLENHALL Three Bed Link Detached Property Located In A Quiet Cul-De-Sac Comprising Of Entrance Porch, Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor W.C, Family Bathroom, C/Heating, D/ Glazing, Garage, Garden, Driveway.</p> <p>£142,995</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>LONGWOOD RISE, WILLENHALL Immaculate Three Bed Detached Property Comprises Of Spacious Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen/ Diner With Integrated Oven And Hob, Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Family Bathroom With Jacuzzi Bath, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Detached Garage And Block Paved Driveway.</p> <p>£157,995</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>REDWOOD WAY, COPPICE FARM Three Bed Link Detached Property Comprising Of Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Diner, Separate Utility Room, Family Bathroom With Shower, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Integral Garage, Driveway.</p> <p>£159,995</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>CASTLE DRIVE, WILLENHALL Extended Four Bed Semi Having Porch, Hallway, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Lounge Opening Into A Generous Dining Area, Utility, Ground Floor W.C, Additional Sitting Room/Bedroom, Four, Three First Floor Bedrooms, Modern Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Integral Garage, Driveway.</p> <p>£159,995</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>ABERFORD CL, WILLENHALL Five Bed Semi Detached Having Lounge, Spacious Kitchen, Dining Room, Family Bathroom, Separate Shower Room, D/Glazing, C/ Heating, Integral Garage, Front & Rear Gardens, Cul-De-Sac Location.</p> <p>£167,995</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>W-TON RD WEST, BENTLEY Well Presented Four Bed Semi Detached Property Having Lounge, Stylish Breakfast Kitchen, 'P' Shaped Conservatory, Three Bedrooms To The First Floor, Bathroom With Separate Steam Shower, Bedroom Four To The Second Floor, D/ Glazing, C/Heating & Driveway.</p> <p>£169,995</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>BIRCHTREE HOLLOW, WILLENHALL Extended Five Bed Semi Detached Having Entrance Porch, Entrance Hall, Lounge Being Open Plan Into Dining Area, Fitted Kitchen, Separate Utility Room, Ground Floor W.C, Additional Sitting Room, Four/Five Bedrooms And Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Block Paved Driveway.</p> <p>£169,995</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>HIGHMOOR CL, COPPICE FARM Three Bed Detached Having Lounge, Separate Dining Room With UPVC Double Glazed French Doors, Fitted Kitchen, Master Bedroom With Fitted Wardrobes, Two Further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/ Glazing, C/Heating, Garage And Block Paved Driveway.</p> <p>£169,995</p>
<p>NEW</p> <p>TO LET</p> <p>THE CRESCENT, WILLENHALL Immaculately Presented First Floor One Bedroom Flat Comprising Of Lounge, Double Bedroom, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Modern Bathroom, C/Heating, D/Glazing And Gated Off Road Parking For One Vehicle To The Rear. Must View!</p> <p>£395 PCM</p>	<p>TO LET</p> <p>BLOXWICH RD 5TH, W-HALL Well Presented Two Bedroom Property Comprising Of Two Reception Rooms, Breakfast Kitchen, Utility, Ground Floor W.C, Modern Fitted Bathroom, C/Heating, Majority D/ Glazing And Rear Garden. Viewing Recommended!</p> <p>£450 PCM</p>	<p>NEW</p> <p>TO LET</p> <p>WOODLANDS HOUSE, SHORT HEATH Comprising Of Entrance Hallway, Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Two Good Sized Bedrooms, Fitted Bathroom, C/Heating, D/Glazing And Gated Parking. Close To Transport Links And Local Schools. Be Quick For This One!</p> <p>£475 PCM</p>	<p>NEW</p> <p>TO LET</p> <p>LICHFIELD RD, WEDNESFIELD Property Comprising Of Two Reception Rooms, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Modern Family Bathroom With Shower, D/Glazing, C/Heating And Rear Garden. Viewing Recommended!</p> <p>£500 PCM</p>	<p>TO LET</p> <p>COLMAN AVE, WEDNESFIELD Three Bedroom Semi Detached House In Wednesfield. Accommodation Comprises Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen And Lobby Area With Storage Cupboards And W.C To The Ground Floor. With The First Floor Having Two Good Sized Bedrooms And Family Bathroom. Off Road Parking To The Front And An Enclosed Garden To The Rear.</p> <p>£525 PCM</p>	<p>TO LET</p> <p>PIMBURY RD, SHORT HEATH Three Bed Semi Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Lounge Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Three bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Off Road Parking, Garage And Good Sized Rear Garden. Viewings Recommended!</p> <p>£525 PCM</p>	<p>TO LET</p> <p>CEMETERY RD, WILLENHALL Immaculately Presented Three Bed Terraced Property Comprising Of Entrance Porch, Hallway, Two Reception Rooms, Modern Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Private Enclosed Courtyard Leading To The Rear Garden. Close To Local Amenities.</p> <p>£525 PCM</p>	<p>TO LET</p> <p>FURZEBANK WAY, WILLENHALL Three Bed Detached Having Lounge, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, Warm Air Heating, Gardens To Front, Side And Rear, Off Road Parking And A Detached Garage. Must View!</p> <p>£595 PCM</p>

Willenhall 01902 606595

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Lot 1 Sandwell Street Walsall

Viewing: 17th & 23rd May at 11.00



Internal viewing of this Victorian end terrace is recommended to appreciate the spacious well appointed and maintained accommodation which benefits from gas central heating and uPVC double glazing would make an ideal purchase for an investor or owner occupier. The property comprises: Through Lounge/Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, W.C., Two Double Bedrooms, Refitted Bathroom. Outside: Fore and Rear Gardens.

GUIDE PRICE £68,000 - £78,000

Lot 4 Castlefort Road Walsall

Viewing: 17th & 23rd May at 13.30



In need of some modernisation, this traditional semi detached residence is set on a larger than average plot and offers well planned gas centrally heated and part double glazed accommodation ideal for an investor for first time buyer. Conveniently located the property comprises: Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, basic Kitchen, Outbuildings, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Fore and good sized Rear Gardens.

GUIDE PRICE £90,000 PLUS

Lot 6 Walhouse Road Walsall

Viewing: Strictly By Appointment



A traditionally styled three bedroom semi detached property situated in a sought after residential location. In need of some modernisation and improvement, the property which offers ease of access to town centre, motorways and schools for children of all ages offers gas fired central heating and some uPVC double glazing and briefly comprises: Enclosed Porch, Reception Hall, Front Living Room, Rear Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Sun Room, Guest W.C., Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Outside: Good Sized Fore and Rear Gardens. EPC Rating F

GUIDE PRICE £110,000 - £130,000

Lot 7 Ida Road Walsall

Viewing: 17th & 23rd May at 12.15



In need of some improvement this semi detached property is located close to the Manor Hospital and lends itself to an investor or owner occupier. Cash offers are invited for the property which comprises the following part double glazed and centrally heated accommodation Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Lobby with W.C lean to Verandah, Three Bedrooms, W.C, Fore and Rear Gardens.

GUIDE PRICE £65,000 - £75,000

Lot 8 Glebe Street Walsall

Viewing: 17th & 23rd May at 11.30



This former Day Care Centre consists of two self-contained, centrally heated and mainly double glazed buildings, lending themselves to a number of alternative uses. 28 Glebe Street (2 storey) comprises 5 offices, Kitchen and W.C's. Archway Centre (single storey) comprises Hallway, 2 large Activity Rooms, Kitchen, 4 Offices, 3 W.C's. Outside: Car Park.

GUIDE PRICE £130,000 PLUS

Lot 9 Wayford Glade Willenhall

Viewing: Strictly By Appointment



This modern gas centrally heated and double glazed semi-detached residence is situated in a quiet cul-de-sac and would make an ideal purchase for an investor. Cash offers only are invited for the property which comprises Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Area, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage, fore and rear Gardens.

GUIDE PRICE £90,000 PLUS

Lot 10 Beech Court Walsall

Viewing: 17th & 23rd May at 10.30



Conveniently located on the outskirts of Walsall town centre this purpose built first floor flat is an ideal investment opportunity. The well appointed and planned accommodation comprises: Reception Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, fitted Bathroom with Shower, Communal Gardens.

GUIDE PRICE £50,000 - £60,000

Lot 11 Leighswood Road Aldridge

Viewing: 17th & 23rd May at 13.00



This former café comes with its own self contained living accommodation and would make an ideal investment. Set on a prominent corner plot on the outskirts of Aldridge village the gas centrally heated and double glazed accommodation comprises self contained Shop with prep Area, House with Lounge, Dining Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Rear garden with off street Parking.

GUIDE PRICE £105,000 PLUS

Lot 12 Bradford Street Walsall

Viewing: Strictly By Appointment



Town centre freehold shop/office unit set over three floors with split level ground floor retail area with office and W.C., Basement with Kitchenette, Store and W.C., Lower Basement Storage, Four Ancillary Rooms, Rear Parking.

GUIDE PRICE £99,000 PLUS

Lot 14 Shannon Drive Walsall

Viewing: Strictly By Appointment



A well presented mid terraced property, offering a perfect investment opportunity, currently let on a 12 month Assured Shorthold Tenancy at £440 PCM. Cash offers only are invited for the property which comprises Reception Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage, Fore and Rear Gardens.

GUIDE PRICE £55,000 PLUS

Lot 15 Elmsdale Court Walsall

Viewing: Strictly By Appointment



A purpose built first floor flat, sold as an investment currently let on an Assured Shorthold Tenancy at £410pcm. Situated just outside Walsall town centre the well located double glazed accommodation comprises Reception Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Bedroom, Bathroom, Outside communal Gardens, Carport.

GUIDE PRICE £49,000 PLUS

Lot 16 Pool Street Walsall

Viewing: Strictly By Appointment



Situated close to Walsall town centre this former Children's Day care Centre/Clinic lends itself to a number of uses. With a number of rooms the detached building also comes with its own parking. The centrally heated accommodation briefly comprises: Reception Area with W.C.'s off, 2 large Activity Rooms, Soft and Wet Play Areas, 3 Offices, 2 Kitchens, additional W.C's, Changing Rooms. Outside: Functional Play Area, Car Parking and Gardens.

GUIDE PRICE £100,000 - £120,000

Lot 19 Mouse Hill Walsall

Viewing: 15 May 13.00 & 22 May 14.30



Occupying a prominent corner position on the corner of Foundry Lane and Mouse Hill, this Freehold shop has additional self contained living accommodation and would make an ideal investment. Conveniently located the property comprises:- Retail Shop, Two Store Areas, Lobby, Three Additional Rooms, Lobby, Further Lobby with W.C. Self contained Flat with Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen, Bedroom, Bathroom, Outside is a small Enclosed Yard. The property benefits from a single car parking space on the left hand side of the land adjacent to No. 4 Foundry Lane.

GUIDE PRICE £100,000 - £120,000

Lot 21 Ridgeway Court Walsall

Viewing: Strictly By Appointment



A purpose built first floor maisonette conveniently located and making an ideal investment purchase. With gas central heating and double glazing the property comprises: Reception Hall, Open plan Lounge with fitted Kitchen inner Hallway with Store, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower. Communal gardens and Parking area.

GUIDE PRICE £40,000 - £50,000

Lot 22 Blakenall Garage Walsall

Viewing: Strictly by appointment



Set in a prominent position in the centre of Blakenall, this Garage site has been trading for a number of years as a MOT test centre, motor repairs and Petrol Station. Occupying a 1/4 acre plot, the site could be ripe for redevelopment (subject to planning). The property is set back and comprises: Service Bay, Store Room, Workshop, Office, Store, Reception Area, Office, Store, Show Room, Self Contained First Floor Flat: a part double glazed and centrally heated flat in need of some modernisation. Landing, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Separate W.C. Outside: Large forecourt, side and rear yards.

GUIDE PRICE £200,000 PLUS

Lot 23 Sutton Road Walsall

Viewing: Strictly by appointment



GUIDE PRICE £160,000 - £180,000

Traditionally styled semi-detached residence situated on the much sought after Sutton Road in the South Walsall district of Walsall occupying a good plot and gas fired central heating and predominantly double glazed accommodation conveniently located for all amenities and comprising: Enclosed Porch, Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage, Fore and Rear Gardens.

Lot 25 Landywood Lane Cheslyn Hay

Viewing: 17 May 10.30 & 22 May 15.00



In need of modernisation this traditionally styled semi detached property is conveniently located in a popular residential area. Normal finance of the property may prove difficult due to mining issues so the property is an ideal opportunity for a builder or buy to let landlord. The property comprises: Porch, Reception Hall, Lounge/Dining Room, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage/Utility Room, Lean To, Fore and Rear Gardens.

GUIDE PRICE £80,000 PLUS

Lot 26 Samuel Street Bloxwich

Viewing: 15 May 12.30 & 22 May 14.00



Situated just off Bloxwich High Street, this semi detached property is in need of full modernisation and improvement. With original aluminium double glazing and part central heating the property would suit a developer or investor and comprises: Reception Hall, Lounge/Dining Room, Breakfast Room, Kitchen, Porch, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage, Driveway, Rear Garden.

GUIDE PRICE £50,000 PLUS

Lot 27 Lincoln Road Walsall

Viewing: 17th & 23rd May at 14.15



This traditionally styled gas centrally heated and part double glazed semi detached residence is in need of modernisation. Situated in the popular Chucky area the property is set on wide frontage with double garage and comprises Reception Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/Dining Room, Conservatory, Rear Porch, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Fore and Rear Gardens.

GUIDE PRICE £120,000 PLUS

SKITTS

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FEATURED PROPERTY



EPC D

NIGHTINGALE CRESCENT COPPICE FARM

- Modern Detached Property
- Popular Road
- Prime location
- Lounge
- Dining room
- Kitchen
- Utility with wc
- Four Bedrooms
- En-suite to Master Bedroom
- Refitted Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Rear Garden
- Garage

£228,000

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK



EPC D

CANNOCK ROAD WILLENHALL

- Extended Traditional Detached
- Five Double Bedrooms
- Reception Hall
- Guests WC
- Three Reception Rooms
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Utility
- Luxury Re-Fitted Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Delightful Rear Gardens
- Large Driveway

£299,995

MANAGER'S CHOICE



HUNTS LANE SHORT HEATH

- Traditional Semi Detached Bungalow
- Generous lounge
- Re-fitted kitchen
- Superb conservatory
- Two bedrooms
- Superb luxury bathroom
- Driveway
- Rear gardens
- Gas CH
- Double glazing
- No Upward Chain Available

£156,000

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REDUCED SNEYD LANE ESSINGTON <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attractive Extended Semi Detached on Premier Road & Location • Four Bedrooms • Extended Lounge • Conservatory • Dining Room • Breakfast Kitchen • Utility & WC • Gas Central Heating • Double Glazing • Large Block Paved Driveway • Delightful Rear Gardens £239,950	 THOMPSON STREET THE MANOR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superb Modern Detached • Hall • Guests WC • Three Reception Rooms • Newly Fitted Kitchen • 4 Bedrooms • Re-Fitted Bathroom • En-Suite Shower Room • Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating System • Rear Gardens • Driveway • Garage £205,000	 YALE ROAD WILLENHALL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superb Modern Detached • Spacious Lounge, Dining Area • Sitting Room/Dining Room • Fitted Kitchen • Three Bedrooms • Bathroom • En-Suite Shower Room • Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating System • Rear Gardens • Driveway to the Fore £169,000	 BEWLEY ROAD WILLENHALL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impressive Link Detached Property • Entrance Hall • Spacious Lounge • Dining Kitchen • Utility/WC • Conservatory • Three Bedrooms • Re-Fitted Bathroom • Gas Central Heating • Double Glazing • Garage • Driveway • Rear Gardens OFFERS OVER £160,000	 CADNAM CLOSE WILLENHALL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superb Modern Style Detached • Corner Position • Spacious Lounge • Impressive Dining Kitchen • Conservatory • Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating • Three Bedrooms • Re-Fitted Bathroom • Ample Block Paved Driveway • Garage • Rear Gardens £160,000	 HILLBURY DRIVE COPPICE FARM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extended Modern Semi Detached • Lounge & Dining Kitchen • Conservatory • Utility • Three Bedrooms • Bathroom • Gas Central Heating • Double Glazing • Garage • Driveway • Rear Gardens £153,950	 LUCKNOW ROAD WILLENHALL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modern style link detached • Three good size bedrooms • Refitted bathroom • Spacious lounge • Dining room • Impressive conservatory • Refitted kitchen • Double glazing • Gas central heating • Superb Gardens • Garage and driveway £144,950	 DILLOWAYS LANE WILLENHALL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extended Traditional Bay Fronted Semi Detached Property • Through Lounge • Fitted Kitchen • Superb Family / Dining Room with Utility Area • Three Bedrooms • Re-Fitted Bathroom • Block Paved Driveway • Rear Gardens • Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating System £135,000
 BIRCH COPPICE GARDENS WILLENHALL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modern Semi Detached Property • Three Bedrooms • Gas C/H Heating • UPVC D/Glazing • Spacious Lounge • Rear & Side Gardens • Conservatory • Laundry Room • Garage • Parking £130,000	 ADA WRIGHTON CLOSE NEW INVENTION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modern Style Mid Terrace • Popular Cul-De-Sac • Reception Hall • Three Bedrooms • Bathroom • Lounge • Fitted kitchen • Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating • Front and Rear Gardens • Garage • Driveway OFFERS OVER £125,000	NO CHAIN NEVIS GROVE COPPICE FARM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modern Semi Detached • No Chain • Spacious Lounge • Dining Kitchen • Two Double Bedrooms • Bathroom • Double Glazing • Driveway • Rear Garden £118,000	 HARDEN ROAD BLOXWICH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deceptively spacious semi detached • Three bedrooms • Two reception rooms • Conservatory • Fitted kitchen • First floor fitted bathroom • Generous rear garden • Gas central heating • Upvc double glazed windows • Internal viewing strongly recommended OFFERS OVER £115,000	 HOUGH WAY ESSINGTON <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Floor Apartment • Impressively Appointed • Premier Cul-De-Sac Location • Reception Hall • Lounge • Fitted Kitchen • Two Bedrooms • Bathroom • Double Glazing • Allocated Parking Space • No Chain Available OFFERS OVER £110,000	 EDINBURGH AVENUE BENTLEY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superb well appointed semi detached • Lounge • Refitted breakfast kitchen • Utility • Two double bedrooms • Bathroom • Double glazing • Gas central heating • Rear garden OFFERS OVER £110,000	 GOUGH STREET WILLENHALL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid Terrace Property • No Chain • Spacious Lounge • Re-Fitted Kitchen • 3 Bedrooms • Re-Fitted Shower Room • Double Glazing • Driveway • Gardens £77,000	 KINGFISHER COURT CLARKS LANE, WILLENHALL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superb First Floor Apartment • Hall • Lounge with Kitchen area • Double Bedroom • Bathroom • Secured Allocated Parking • Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating System • No Chain £75,000

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<p>NO CHAIN EPC E</p>  <p>DURHAM AVENUE WILLENHALL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional Semi Detached • No Chain • Lounge • Dining Room • Kitchen • Three Bedrooms • Bathroom • Double Glazing • Driveway • Pleasant Rear Gardens <p>£122,500</p>	<p>NO CHAIN EPC C</p>  <p>HAWTHORNE ROAD SHORT HEATH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immaculate Semi Detached • No chain • Three Bedrooms • Refitted Bathroom • Lounge • Superb Refitted Breakfast Kitchen • Refitted Luxury Bathroom • Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating System • Long Block Paved Driveway • Large Rear Garden <p>£119,950</p>	<p>NEW EPC TBC</p>  <p>ALTON AVENUE WILLENHALL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional Semi Detached • Popular Location • Lounge • Dining Room • Kitchen • Three Bedrooms • Shower Room • Bathroom • Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating • Garage • Block Paved Driveway • Front & Rear Gardens • No Chain <p>£109,950</p>	<p>NEW EPC TBC</p>  <p>LABURNUM GROVE BENTLEY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superb End Terrace • No Chain • Lounge • Sitting Room • Dining Kitchen • Two Double Bedrooms • Bathroom • Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating • Pleasant Gardens • Driveway <p>£99,950</p>	<p>REDUCED EPC E</p>  <p>BILSTON LANE WILLENHALL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Period Mid Terrace Property • Lounge • Dining Room • Kitchen • Three Bedrooms • Ground Floor Bathroom • Gas Central Heating System • Double Glazing • Garage & Gardens to Rear • No Chain <p>£80,000</p>	<p>NEW EPC C</p>  <p>ESSINGTON ROAD NEW INVENTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superb ground floor apartment • Two bedrooms • 14ft front lounge • Fitted kitchen • Refitted bathroom with shower • Communal gardens • Secure Allocated parking space • UPVC double glazed windows • Gas central heating • No Chain <p>£79,950</p>	<p>NO CHAIN EPC E</p>  <p>ROSEHILL GARDENS WILLENHALL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Much Improved Second Floor Flat • Two Double Bedrooms • Bathroom • Large Lounge • Refitted Kitchen • Double Glazing • External Storage Area • Communal Gardens • No Chain <p>£68,000</p>	<p>NO CHAIN EPC F</p>  <p>BIRCH COPPICE GARDENS WILLENHALL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First floor maisonette • Popular location • Lounge • Kitchen • Double bedroom • Bathroom with white suite • Double glazing • Garage • No chain <p>£54,500</p>

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[^]Model shown is an Alfa MiTo 875cc TB TwinAir 105 bhp Sportiva at £15,550 OTR[†] excluding Alfa Red Special Paint at £450 and an Alfa Giulietta 1.4 TB 120 bhp Progression at £18,750 OTR[†] including Luna Pearl Metallic Paint at £510. Range of official fuel consumption figures for the Alfa MiTo and Giulietta range: Urban 34.0 - 64.2 mpg (8.3 - 4.4 l/100km); Extra Urban 53.3 - 97.4 mpg (5.3 - 2.9 l/100km); Combined 44.1 - 80.7 mpg (6.4 - 3.5 l/100km). CO₂ emissions 148 - 90 g/km.

[†]Fuel consumption and CO₂ figures are obtained for comparative purposes in accordance with EC directives/regulations and may not be representative of real-life driving conditions. Factors such as driving style, weather and road conditions may also have a significant effect on fuel consumption.

[^]0% APR finance Hire Purchase available over a 2 year term with a minimum deposit of 45% on Alfa MiTo Models and over a 3 year term with a minimum deposit of 40% on Alfa Giulietta Models. Offer applies to models registered between 1st April 2014 and 30th June 2014. Retail sales only. Terms and conditions apply. Offer correct at time of printing. Finance subject to status. Guarantees may be required. We work with a number of creditors including Alfa Romeo Financial Services, PO BOX 4465, Slough, SL1 0RW.

[†]On the road price includes 12 months road fund licence, vehicle first registration fee, delivery, number plates and VAT. Figures and prices are correct at time of publishing. Vehicles must be registered before 30th June 2014.



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V40 Hatchback T2 R-Design 5 door

Cash price of vehicle	Customer deposit	Manufacturer deposit contribution	Total amount of credit	Total charge for credit	48 monthly payments	Duration in months	One final payment (GFV)	Fixed rate of interest (per annum)	Representative APR	Total amount payable	Mileage per annum	Excess mileage charge
£18,760	£992	£500	£17,268	£3,162.50	£229	49	£9,438.50	3.04%	5.9%	£21,922.50	8,000	14.9p per mile

Personal contract purchase representative example:
V40 Diesel Hatchback D2 R-Design 5 door

Cash price of vehicle	Customer deposit	Manufacturer deposit contribution	Total amount of credit	Total charge for credit	48 monthly payments	Duration in months	One final payment (GFV)	Fixed rate of interest (per annum)	Representative APR	Total amount payable	Mileage per annum	Excess mileage charge
£20,400	£1,160	£500	£18,740	£3,429	£249	49	£10,217	3.04%	5.9%	£23,829	8,000	14.9p per mile

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Official fuel consumption for the All-New Volvo V40 in mpg (l/100km): Urban 25.0 (11.3) - 74.3 (3.8), Extra Urban 47.1 (6.0) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined 35.8 (7.9) - 83.1 (3.4). CO₂ Emissions 185 - 88g/km. MPG figures are obtained from laboratory testing and intended for comparisons between vehicles and may not reflect real driving results.

Offer applies to stock cars only. Finance subject to status. At Brindley Volvo on vehicles registered by 30st June 2014. At the end of the Personal Contract Purchase there are three options: (i) pay the GFV (Guaranteed Future Value/Optional Final Payment) to own the vehicle; (ii) part exchange the vehicle, where equity is available; or (iii) return the vehicle. Further charges may be made subject to the condition of the vehicle. Terms and conditions apply, 18s or over. Guarantee/Indemnity may be required. Volvo Car Credit RH1 1SR. Retail offer only. Excludes fleet operators and business users. See volvocars.co.uk for full terms and conditions.



Marking 30th anniversary of popular SEAT Ibiza

By Sharon Walters

This week it is 30 years since the very first Ibiza rolled off the production line in SEAT's Zona Franca factory.

Since that day, the Ibiza has remained SEAT's most iconic and popular car, with sales approaching five million across three decades and four generations.

The car was a game-changer for SEAT, the first designed and developed completely by the Spanish company from start to finish – with a little help from some friends. Namely, collaborations with Giorgetto Giugiaro's Italdesign design company, coachbuilder Karmann, and Porsche helped make the Ibiza a truly cutting-edge small car, and the foundation of 30 years of ongoing success.

The very embodiment of the Spain of the '80s, the first SEAT Ibiza was ambitious, dynamic and ground-breaking. Its name, taken from the Mediterranean island, reinforced the exotic image given to it by virtue of its Spanish roots.

The backdrop chosen for the world premiere of the SEAT Ibiza was the prestigious Paris Motor Show in 1984, and from then on the car has gone from strength to strength, achieving success both in its domestic market and abroad, with almost seven of every ten produced exported; 69 per cent of 5,000,000 total Ibiza production has been exported to more than 75 countries worldwide.

The most important markets for the Ibiza during the early years were Italy, France, Germany, United Kingdom, Portugal and Mexico, in addition to Spain.

SEAT will celebrate this resounding and continued success with the launch of a 30th anniversary model, set to go on sale in June.

SEAT ended the '80s with production and sales records, and became a member of the Volkswagen Group. Until 1993 the brand's activity had been concentrated in the Barcelona Zona Franca, but its membership of a new group, the success of its new models, and the need to increase production meant that a new industrial production complex was required. SEAT would be provided with a new modern factory next to its technical centre in Martorell, opened in 1991.

The second-generation Ibiza would be the first vehicle built at SEAT's new Martorell production facility. More than that, the establishment of the new factory would give rise to the creation of a suppliers' industrial estate, which at that time comprised 20 companies.

Today Martorell remains one of the most modern and flexible factories in Europe, its international standing attested to when SEAT received the 'Automotive Lean Production' award. Almost 700 Ibiza vehicles are built every day on Martorell's Line 1, employing around 1,600 people directly; all told, SEAT generates direct and indirect employment for approximately 70,000 families.

Distinguished

The Ibiza is 100 per cent SEAT, since it was the first vehicle designed and developed in its entirety by the company. Design has always formed part of the Spanish brand's DNA, and in the case of the Ibiza the four generations have borne the hallmark of distinguished names in the field of automotive design.

For the first generation of the Ibiza (1984-1993), SEAT collaborated with Italdesign, the company of world famous Italian designer Giorgetto Giugiaro, with Karmann for the development of the bodywork, and Porsche for the technology of the 'System Porsche' engines.

There was a clear aesthetic leap in the second generation (1993-2002), which again bore the hallmark of Giugiaro. The lines were rounded and aerodynamic, and the car given a level of equipment and mechanical sophistication that were in those days normally only found in cars in the segments above.

Italian designer Walter de'Silva, the current head of design at the Volkswagen Group, was responsible for the outline of the third-generation Ibiza (2002-2008), which took another step forward in manufacture quality, engine range and dynamic performance. Walter de'Silva introduced more attractive aesthetics, while the car's dynamic prowess took another leap forward thanks to the 'Agile Chassis' concept developed by SEAT's technical centre in Martorell.

The current generation of the Ibiza (2008 onwards) is the work of Luc Donckerwolke, head of design at SEAT in 2008 and formerly of Lamborghini. The concept of 'Arrow Design' was introduced with the 2008 Ibiza, resulting in a car distinctively sportier than its predecessors. The first SEAT Ibiza with a clear sports calling was the SXI with a 100 PS engine, the forerunner of the current Cupra and FR versions. In 1996, the company presented the Cupra version, with a 2.0-litre 150 PS engine, offering outstanding performance and a distinctly sporty image.

The Ibiza Kit Car was a much-awaited launch, with which SEAT achieved a brilliant triumph in the FIA 2.0-litre World Rally Championships – a success that was repeated in 1997 and 1998.



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MG's new supermini looks like a good choice

By David Banner

The MG badge is back. We could argue it came back over 18 months ago with MG6, but that is a large saloon vehicle, whereas the MG3 is attempting to put back a sense of style, bit of fun and certainly affordability into the marketplace.

The MG3 is pitched into the important supermini category, and it should hold its head in this company.

It has a reasonably economical engine, high levels of specification, and it does not look too out of place in the car park.

And one of the big plusses with the MG is its pricing structure.

There are four derivatives and the entry level starts at a mere £8,399, even the top specification is priced at just £9,999, and this has to be superb value for money, assuming the vehicle lives up to expectations.

The new MG3 is mostly built in China by MG's new owners, SAIC, the final assembly takes place in the UK. The vehicle was designed and styled in the UK, where over 300 engineers and designers are employed to produce vehicles suitable for the UK and European market, and certainly the ride and handling have been honed to perfection for our bumpy roads.

It is a delight to see the octagonal badge back on the bonnet and also displayed on the cylinder head cover in the engine bay.

The whole range is powered by a single 1.5-litre engine which produces 105ps. There have been complaints the engine lacks power and is a lethargic. I take the viewpoint this is an engine which needs to be revved.

It is not an engine which produces a lot of torque at low speed, but when you rev it and get the needle above 3,000 revs, then it starts to reward you.

Delight

The five-speed gearbox was a delight to operate, and even allowing for the lack of torque, it was not really problematic to change gear frequently to make progress. A top speed of 108 mph and 0-60mph in 10.4 seconds is achievable.

The economics of running the vehicle are ones of not very high mpg figures. The manufacturer suggests 48-plus should be available, I managed to achieve 40mpg over a varied 4,000 miles whilst in ownership of the vehicle.

The CO2 emissions at 136 g/km are not going to place the MG3 in the ultra cheap Vehicle Excise Duty category and that is a shame.

The big feature for me, however, is the huge amount of interior space. If a small supermini is your choice but you need to move four adults, five at a push, then you seriously need to check out the MG3.

My 6ft-plus frame in the driver's seat still enabled a 6ft-plus person to sit behind me, with ample amounts of leg, head and shoulder room. This really is worth a couple of extra ticks on your shopping list. The boot space was adequate but not overly generous.

The interior has sadly followed the fashion of today with lots of black plastic and a very dark overall look. However, there was some wonderful contrasting red stitching on the steering wheel and on the superb sport-type seats.

The vehicle, from a driver's perspective, was not overly complicated – just radio controls contained on the steering wheel, and two stalks on the steering column, one for the wipers and combined computer and one for the lights and indicators.

There was a cubby-hole on the dashboard, hidden behind a roller cover. The kind people at MG had fitted as an afterthought, an iPad connection. This to me was a bit of a waste of money and wasted space.

Extensively

Four trim levels are available, my test car was the 3 FORM Sport and this was extensively equipped. It included air conditioning, the driver and passenger's wing mirrors are electronically adjustable and heated, and in addition there was a DAB radio and a Bluetooth facility to either stream in your music or telephone.

Safety has not been overlooked and there are a plethora of airbags including driver and passenger, side and curtain airbags.

The MG is also equipped with an anti-lock braking system and a stability control. One feature which works quite nicely is the hill-hold control.

MG is hopeful of selling 2,000 to 2,500 of the MG3 and I can see no reason why this target should not be achieved, certainly the pricing structure MG has introduced makes this particular derivative a very attractive option.

I just hope against hope that the Chinese owners of MG will start very soon to re-introduce a two-seater sports car, which the market is just crying out for.

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• From only £8,995
• Park Finding Experts
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caravan holidays

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LARGE SIX BERTH CARAVAN
Seafont site, sandy beach, picturesque views, club and shop.
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DOLPHIN CARAVAN PARK, Brea Somerset. Call 01278 751258 www.dolphincaravanpark.co.uk

PAIGNTON HOBURNE 2 / 3 Bed Caravans In/Out/Door Pools, Club, Great Prices 01765 601762

caravan sales

2 BED CARAVAN FOR SALE

at Wide Horizons Holiday Park Nr Aberaeron, sea views with balcony and parking bay incl. 2014 site fees.
For more info call 07813 121678

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BURNHAM-ON-SEA
Self Catering Holiday Apartments
Disabled Facilities
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mind, body & soul

clairvoyance

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LOCAL MOBILE HAIRDRESSER men, women, children and OAP's welcome. Michael: 07842 399159.

what's on

antique fairs

ANTIQUE CRAFT COLLECTORS FAIR 'WTON' (Coven Memorial Hall), WV9 5DL, Sunday 18th May 9-3pm. Karen, 01384 277873.

toy & train fair

TOY AND TRAIN COLLECTOR'S FAIR
OAK PARK LEISURE CENTRE Lichfield Road, Walsall Wood (A461)
Sunday 18th May 2014
10.30 am - 3.00 pm
OVER 65 TABLES
Toys, Cars and Trains, etc.
Old and New
Admission: Adults £1.50 Seniors £1.20 Children 60p
TRANSTAR PROMOTIONS (01922) 643385

table top sale

TABLE TOP SALE
114, SCOUT GROUP
St. Paul's Community Centre, Walsall Road, Great Barr on Saturday, May 17, 10am to 1pm
50p admission.
Tables £7 to prebooked on 07833 044744.

weddings

photographers

DAVID EMERY WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHY Leather album 100 photos and DVD from £390. Call 01543 275969/07594 489278

3 Home & Services

furniture

DINING ROOM TABLE 4 chairs, 2 carvers in rosewood, dresser with glass display unit, rosewood veneer, £300 ono. 01785 716217.

DINING ROOM TABLE 4 chairs, 2 carvers in rosewood, dresser with glass display unit, rosewood veneer, £350 ono. 01785 716217.

DINING TABLE and six chairs, yew, corner unit and CD unit, all matching and excellent condition, £300. 07717 310614, Cannock.

INSTANT CASH for leather chesters, sofas and chairs, any condition or colour. Call now on: 07546 967350

LEATHER THREE-PIECE SUITE, excellent condition, £300 ono. 01922 631833.

BFC FURNITURE FACTORY OUTLET
We've Smashed the Prices, You Grab the Bargains!!
Worcester extra value down single was £399 now £149.50. Dibles £89.50. Cleo Sofa Bed clic clic in fabric or faux leather was £398 now £119. orho matts from £99, memory foam matts £99, metal fashion beds frames £39, ottoman and leather sleigh beds, over 1000 mattresses, wing chairs £119, recliner chairs £199, massage/power recliners from £299, complete suites from £299. Save up to 50% on leather corner units-1/2 price £249, 3 seater Westford fabric sofas-Clearance £149, Chairs £49, Recliner leather £199. Mattresses from £29. Bunk bed frames £99.

OPEN 7 DAYS: MON-SAT 10AM-5PM SUNDAY 10AM-4PM
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0121 557 6885

household appliances

FRIDGE FREEZER Excellent condition, £90. 07419 157306.

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A LANDSCAPING & GARDEN SERVICE
Fencing supplied & fitted.
Jungles cleared & restored.
Garden tidy-ups. New lawns laid.
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For quality fences fitted at affordable prices call:
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01922 268677 or 07967 234441

PANELDIP Fence panels dip treated on site. Call John and book it in: 0757 886034

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antiques

ANTIQUES WANTED
All Furniture, Clocks, China, Medals, Coins, Paintings, Gold & Silver Jewellery
HOUSE CLEARANCE SERVICE
CHASE ANTIQUES
(Over 35 years Trading)
01543 572367 07831 818024

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Fitting Available
01922 254000

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READERS ARE ADVISED to carefully consider all of their options before agreeing to the sale of any of their items.



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specialists at your service

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4 Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

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pets corner

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1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with its Mother.

2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.

3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

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vets

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7

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MERCEDES 190E 1.8, 1991, 125,000 miles, 12 months MoT, tax, all service history, nice condition. £1,250. Walsall 07970 992822.

PEUGEOT 206 2002, 68,500 miles, silver. Tax until August, MoT until March 2015. Ideal 1st car. Cosmetic bump on passenger wing, hence low price! £950. 07854 042993.

PEUGEOT 307 GLX, HDI TD, 2001, tax, MoT 11/10, 747 miles, 5-dr, electric, CD, P/S, good condition. £675 ono. 07941 112657.

RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE 2003/53, 91,831 miles, blue, abs, 6v, e/m, air con, 12 months MoT, 1.6, g, tax May 2014, 2 keys, serviced reg, petrol. £1,100 ono. 07966 046172.

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MINI COOPER 2005, convertible, 49,000 miles, FSH, 12 months MoT, Taxed, alloys, half leather, radio, CD. Excellent condition. £4,795. 07910 773550 / 07940 265514.

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PEUGEOT BOXER van, 350, LWB, 1999, MoT'd till Jan 2015, taxed till Jan 2014, £300 ono. Please call 07920 064373.

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9 Local Information

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES

public & legal notices

Walsall Council, Planning and Building Control

The below applications have been made to the Walsall Council.

Applications can be viewed at First Stop Shop, Civic Centre, Walsall or online www.walsall.gov.uk/planning

Representations can be made online, email: planningservices@walsall.gov.uk, go.vuk or in writing to Head of Planning and Building Control, Civic Centre, Darvall Street, Walsall, WS1 1DG.

Representations should be made within 21 days of the date of this notice. **Please note:** Your letter and personal details will form part of the planning file which is a public document and will be available for inspection at the Council Offices. The information may be released as part of a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (AS AMENDED) PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE ORDER 2010 (AS AMENDED)

*** 14/0634/FL**

Hilton Main Construction Ltd

FOR: Retrospective application for use of the site as a contractor's yard including storage bays, use of the building as a welding workshop, storage and vehicle maintenance and use of Sneyd Cottage as offices associated with the yard. Proposed roof extension and windows to front and rear of the former detached garage to allow for use of the first floor as offices and use of the ground floor as a mess room.

AT: SNEYD COTTAGE, SNEYD LANE, WALSALL, WS3 2LT

14/0642/FL

WHG

FOR: Erection of four houses with car parking, private access road and landscaping. (Site Affecting Public Footpath Wall 8).

AT: FORMER GARAGES TO THE REAR OF MULBERRY PLACE, BLOXWICH, WALSALL, WS3 2NF

The application marked * does not accord with the provisions of the development plan for the area.

10 Personals

general

MARK Where are you? Miss our chats in Morrisons and Asda, Tipton. New job at last. How's Malta? Please contact me. **Box Number P19212, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.**

MARK Where are you? Miss our chats in Morrisons and Asda, Tipton. New job at last. How's Malta? Please contact me. **Box Number P19212, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.**

TALL MALE, 61 YEARS With no ties, n/s, GSOH, loyal and caring, likes shared nights in/out, cinema etc, country/ seaside walks even weekends away but not sport or n/clubs. Seeks a tall, non-judgemental lady with the same to offer, to hopefully put a sparkle back into both our lives for companionship/friendship and who knows. Life is too short to be alone so please write plus recent photo, (returned).

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personal

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XTASIA SWINGERS CLUB West Bromwich, www.xtasia.co.uk for full information. 07850 236053.

YOUNG AT HEART MALE Late 60's, drives, non smoker, WLTM Female similar age for holidays home or abroad, dining in and out.

Box Number P19215, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES

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The application marked * does not accord with the provisions of the development plan for the area.

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES

For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to **Marie Hogg on 01902 713146 or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk** (remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

Women seeking men

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras. Texts cost £1.50 per message sent.

LYNNE young looking attractive Indian female with GSOH and down to earth attitude, looking for likeminded male for date nights, hopefully more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411219**

EMMIE 50, attractive brunette, 5ft 3ins, OHAC, likes country walks, music, reading, seeks genuine, friendly, professional male with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411281**

RETIRED happy, caring, attractive female, likes gardening, travel, animals, comedy, seeks tall, funny, kind chap, Shropshire. **0906 500 3955 Box No: 411459**

RITA naughty 40's petite pretty female looking for that special man in my life, any age, to get to know and see what happens, you only live once remember! **0906 500 3955 Box No: 410959**

SUE 34, likes most things in life, even football! looking for my Mr Wonderful thought I would give this a try. Come on what do we have to loose, call me. **0906 500 3955 Box No: 410765**

CAROL slim attractive blonde, sporty, easy going, broadminded looking for likeminded male with plenty of va va voom, 35-45. **0906 500 3955 Box No: 409717**

SUSAN 64, lively, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. **0906 500 3955 Box No: 411329**

LORRAINE 5ft 9ins, slim, 57, nurse, looking for someone to look after me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410543**

CAROL young 47, caring, loyal, likes music, concerts, cinema, theatre, seeks male with similar interests for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411919**

PROFESSIONAL black lady, likes cooking, music, countryside, seeking honest, reliable gent, possibly farmer for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411763**

VICKY 37yr professional, mum to one, sensual and very attractive, looking for a real man, tall, fit, sincere and passionate to enjoy each other's company. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411695**

LUCY beautiful bubbly bubbly blonde 32yrs, seeking naughty boy to enjoy the fun side of life with, age, status and looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411691**

LINDA single and living alone, attractive, young looking, bubbly, WLTM similar young at heart companion to be close with, enjoy chats and romantic dates. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410119**

WIDOW 68, 5ft 5ins, medium build, attractive, likes walks, reading, holidays, seeks sincere, N/S male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411745**

JEAN young at heart lady, active, 70 plus, N/S, GSOH, likes walks, gardening, outings, WLTM sincere, caring male, 69-74 for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411711**

TINA sexy black female looking for healthy distractions with fun adult companion, interested? You won't be disappointed, give me a call. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411519**

TEXT IN NOW AND CHAT TO LOCAL PEOPLE. SEND: CHAT26 TO : 80098 (T&C'S BELOW)

JEN attractive sensual petite blonde with OHAC seeks confident fit professional male to enjoy and share good times, if that's you pls get in touch. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410949**

ARE you dark or bald, with hairy chest, well built, educated, verbal, articulate dom or sub, broadminded and ready to be put in your place? Curious to find out more? call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410637**

29YR old black beautiful busty tall loving very sensual lady, likes football, making friends, seeking genuine white male for enjoyable loving relationship, pls no time wasters. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410577**

YOUNG early 40's female, GSOH, kind, caring, considerate, seeks male for friendship, possible romance. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410847**

CAROL 38 attractive romantic not looking for fairy tales just happy endings, seeking lovely male to put the sparkle back into my life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410721**

SUE 38, attractive broadminded attentive, enjoys meals in/out etc, not necessarily looking for Mr Right as Mr Wrong or even Mr Right now could be fun! Call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411049**

ANGIE attractive slim blonde just looking for a lovely spontaneous guy who like me just wants good company and a nice relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410641**

KATHERINE 35yr old outgoing single female looking to enjoy dates with similar male also looking for fun times in or out. Age, looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410565**

PAULINE attractive divorced female with no ties, enjoyed with my own home, likes nights in/out, lots of tic to give to the right person, call me for a chat, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411039**

Men seeking women

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras. Texts cost £1.50 per message sent.

TEXT IN NOW AND CHAT TO LOCAL PEOPLE. SEND: CHAT26 TO : 80098 (T&C'S BELOW)

MARTIN 43, 5ft 10 medium build, brown hair, blue eyes, likes country walks, meals out, looking for slim medium build female, 40-45. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4384509**

MARK fun loving, easy going, fair hair blue eyes, athletic, tanned, looking for good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411989**

MARK 5ft 11ins, blond hair, blue eyes, slim-medium build, athletic, likes nights in/out, socialising, meals out, pubs, seeks female with similar interests and GSOH for fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411335**

MALE seeking a woman aged 20 to 50yrs tall romantic, loves cooking, Dancing, music, keep fit, loves socialising and a drink. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4224074**

CARING male, 65 seeking that special lady to share quality time with, likes dining, trips out, holidays. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4379129**

MALE 59, would like to meet lady of same age, for friendship and nights out. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4384059**

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Gethin is looking to get title rematch

WALSALL'S Martin Gethin was convinced he had done enough to win and wants a rematch with Derry Mathews after suffering a split-decision loss.

It came in his maiden defence of the British lightweight title at the Olympia in Liverpool on Saturday evening, as 'Dirty Derry' lifted the belt for a second time. Dave Parris turned in a 116-112 total in favour of Gethin, fellow judges Michael Alexander and Phil Edwards scoring for Mathews 117-113 and 115-114 respectively.

Gethin said: "I thought I did enough to see it through. Most champions get the decision when it's that close.

"Then again, I had to go into his back yard and defend my title and you don't always get the decision. It was a close, tough fight but one that I thought I won.

"He had nothing left at the end. He didn't throw a punch in the last three rounds. He was holding on and not throwing anything back.

"It's disappointing and I would like the chance to get it on with him again.

"He's due to defend the belt against Terry Flanagan in July. But, after that, I want the chance to reclaim what's mine."

Road take bowls cup by 35 shots

STAFFORD Rd Bowls Club beat Bloxwich in the cup by 35 shots.

Stafford Rd Saturday A team drew Bloxwich in the cup where five players play at home and five away.

All the games were very close. The match at Bloxwich finished first with both teams coming away with 97 shots. Peter Bellanti had a great game winning 21-17 and youngster Liam Worgan bowled well eventually losing 20-21.

So it was all to play for at Stafford Road but with the first two cards (Ken Fencott 21-5) & John Windsor (21-12) going in Stafford Rd's favour by 25 shots.

Trevor Kemp (21-17) and Barbara Windsor (20-21) helped keep the pressure on. Roger Garnett (21-13) then saw Stafford Rd home by using his home green to his advantage. Stafford Road won by 35 shots. Stafford Rd Tuesday Teams - Cup week, A team-Bye, B team-Won.

Just fan-tastic away support

WOLVES have the second-highest away support in the Football League.

Kenny Jackett's League One champions were watched by an average of 2,645 supporters this season, below only Championship side Leeds' total of 3,132.

The average number of travelling Wolves supporters eclipsed next-best Nottingham Forest (2,321), Sheffield Wednesday (2,220) and Leicester (2,140).

The Molineux average home gate, 20,878 was higher than all but six in the Championship - Brighton, Leeds, Leicester, Derby, Forest and Wednesday.

City slicker than Villa in penultimate

Man City 4 Villa 0

CITY only had to wait 64 minutes before the breakthrough which moved them closer to the Premier League title.

Villa will have to hold out longer if they are going to be revived. It will seem like a lifetime - and it has for the fans - but endure they must.

The 4-0 defeat at the Etihad was another painful reminder of the gap between Villa and the top teams.

And it was a reminder how they must stand tall if the club is going to transform over the summer.

The claret and blues have fallen and need to rebuild if, as expected, chairman Randy Lerner confirms his desire to sell in the coming weeks.

Lerner will have watched the game on a TV feed but with his interest waning you

Football

can imagine him accepting the result with a resigned shrug.

It has been a season to forget with one game left but the club could start the next with renewed optimism should new owners arrive.

City eventually brushed them aside on an evening with a cup-game feel, a lower league opposition against a superior Premier League side. And Villa cannot escape that they lined up for damage limitation.

That in itself will not be good enough for fans who demand and expect better than to scrap away in the top flight.

They have survived but safety is not something which should be celebrated. It is the bare minimum a club with Villa's

stature should achieve. Last night, though, wasn't expected to be their night and, had Villa lost 1-0, they would have been praised for their defensive display, a battling, brave, effort which almost spoiled City's party.

But the hosts' quality told, although they were made to work for it after Villa's organised and battle-hardened first half.

City lacked composure and cohesion and their patient approach grated on an expectant crowd who had arrived to see a procession.

Ron Vlaar, Nathan Baker and Ciaran Clark built a wall of resistance.

They were seriously breached twice but Brad Guzan denied Yaya Toure early on and Samir Nasri volleyed wide from close range in stoppage time.

It was textbook 'contain and frustrate' with full-backs Pablo Zabaleta and Alek-

sandar Kolarov the hosts' best attacking outlets.

The Etihad was nervous as Villa - without the injured Gabby Agbonlahor and Marc Albrighton - grew into their role of party-poopers and Guzan claimed Vincent Kompany's overhead kick and turned away Kolarov's free-kick after the break.

City were one-paced but finally broke Villa's dogged resistance on 64 minutes.

Zabaleta had caused the visitors the most problems and another run and cross was turned in by Edin Dzeko from close range.

It opened the floodgates as Dzeko bagged another eight minutes later after Guzan saved from Nasri.

Stevan Jovetic made it 3-0 before Toure's lung-bursting 50-yard run left Villa trailing before he smashed past Guzan in stoppage time.

Albion's final misery reflects their season

Albion 1 Stoke 2

ALBION'S 38th fixture of a troubled season spoke for the previous 37 - deeply flawed, briefly promising, ultimately disappointing.

This has been the first campaign since the club's last Premier League relegation in 2009 in which Albion have gone backwards and the last rites passed their own comment on such a troubled 10 months or so.

There was to be no uplifting valediction, no rousing statement of support for Pepe Mel and his troubled tenure.

Stoke City took care of that as they so often seem to do. With so many troubling side-issues enveloping the club what Albion needed more than anything was a rousing send off from the team. What they got was a reminder of their deficiencies this season.

More often than not since the Spaniard took over, Albion have been unable to produce more than half a performance, a frustration which followed them to the very last. For the opening half-hour especially, there were yet again unable to rouse themselves from the kind of lethargy that marked the previous performance at Sunderland.

An own goal by Gareth McAuley - inadvertently converting a cross from Marko Arnautovic after Stoke had picked Albion's defensive cover bare - was no more than Stoke deserved. Stoke were toying and teasing Albion with what used to be their own game and the half-hour mark passed with the home fans turning their anger from Odemwingie to their own players in frustration. Rightly so - a packed house was expecting more than a limp repeat of their Stadium

Football

of Light offering. But, curiously, the discredited Nigerian came to their rescue one final time, albeit briefly. A clattering by McAuley as the two men chased down possession on the touchline spilled some much-needed vim and vigour into Albion's performance and back in to the galleries; united by their mutual adversary, the team finally put some meaning into their football.

It was a tempo they immediately picked up again after the interval. Sessegnon's equaliser in the 57th minute was a peach, the forward continuing the late season rally of form by moving on to Craig Dawson's cross after Dorrans had found both space and the perfect pass.

Dawson, the latest to try to fill Albion's vexing difficulties at full-back, had a testing afternoon against the gifted Arnautovic and so it was enjoyable for him to gallop forward again and set up the same Albion colleague for a header which stretched Thomas Sorensen.

But just as The Hawthorns prepared for one final assault, Stoke broke out to claim the winner. Adam had taken over from a jeered and derided Odemwingie and smacked home a left-foot drive from 20 yards which beat Foster.



West Bromwich Albion's Stephane Sessegnon, left, celebrates his goal with Saido Berahino during the match at The Hawthorns

Morgan is backing boss Jackett to the hilt

STEVE MORGAN says he is backing Wolves' boss Kenny Jackett 100 per cent to achieve what he wants.

The Wolves owner used his first public address since February 2013 to tell a packed gathering of 710 at the club's end of season awards dinner at Telford International Centre to praise the head coach's forward planning and salute his bravery in promoting the academy players.

"The one thing I love about Kenny is he already knows what he wants for next year," said the chairman.

"I've never experienced that with any manager here and he'll be supported 100 per cent to achieve what he wants. Kenny and Joe Gallen wanted to start afresh and purge the past and we totally supported that and got behind what they wanted to

do." Morgan, who name-checked Richard Stearman, Dave Edwards, Danny Batth and "captain marvel" Sam Ricketts in his praise, paid tribute to Jackett for promoting the club's academy graduates - and revealed the battles he had with previous managers over fielding home-grown players.

"Fair play to Kenny because he hasn't been afraid to use the players from the academy," he said.

"Previous managers have been reluctant to pick our youth players and if you knew some of the arguments we've had with those who wouldn't give them a chance... but now we have a man who thinks 'if they're good enough, they're old enough. They were brave and brought in players from the academy, all of whom have been a fantastic success.' Morgan held his hands

up for the decisions which led to last season's relegation. "I make no excuses for last year but had we had the points total we had then this season, we'd have finished 18th," he said.

"But good comes out of bad and to do what we have done this season and achieved what we have is phenomenal and fantastic for the club.

"One hundred and three points is the record for the third tier in football which is a measure of the achievement we've made.

"I said this time last year in a written statement that we have to go into League One with humility and treat every game like a cup final and give every team respect and I think results have proved we have."

Morgan is hopeful of more success, adding: "Hopefully we're celebrating again this

time next year. It's a tough league we're going into - possibly the toughest in Europe to get out of, where it seems anyone can beat anyone else, but that's what we do: Get up and at it."

The Player of the Year dinner was as memorable as the 2013 occasion was forgettable after it was cancelled due to lack of interest. Deep dejection has been overcome by unrestrained excitement for a future recast by the impact of the club's record-breaking sweep through a year of League One fixtures.

It was Morgan's first public address since the footballing catastrophe that, he admitted, had taken its toll at both a personal and club level, was perhaps the most significant speech of the night. Wolves also won the Football League's 'friendliest club' award.

A perfect Lockmen start gets reversed

Willenhall Town 2 Cradley Town 4

THE Lockmen had a perfect start with the gale and rain behind them when a ball into the box was touched home by Scott Harris after 90 seconds.

The Reds should have had a penalty at the start of the second half but after signalling it he lined up for a free-kick on the edge of the box instead, which was cleared.

With the gale behind them Cradley began to pin The Lockmen back and it was no surprise when they levelled, through Chris Bladen's flicked header on 55 minutes, sub Mikey Clarke saw a free-kick headed off the line.

Bladen then doubled his tally when a risky back-pass saw Ben Newton slip, but he somehow got back to prevent Bladen netting from on the line, but the rebound was alleged to have crossed the line and a goal was given. On 71 minutes he completed his hat-trick with a thumping strike from 15 yards that screamed in. A minute later Cradley sub Spencer Blackham made it four. Willenhall scored the best goal of the gamethrough Harry Kieckus. The lockmen found time to force two goal-line clearances, but never did enough to deserves any points.

Brothers both on boxing bill

BROTHERS Des and Sid Bowater are keeping it in the family as they prepare to box together on a professional bill for the first time at Walsall Town Hall, writes Craig Birch.

The duo from Wednesfield are inseparable, working on the same building site and training out of the same gym, and will step through the ropes next Friday night (May 16).

Des has already been a pro for a year and the 22-year-old has four straight victories since turning over. Eldest Sid, 23, will lace up the gloves again after a break from the sport and enters paid pugilism as a welterweight, with both pitted against experienced adversaries.

Kristian Laight is approaching his 200th pro contest as he prepares to take on Des while Sid will tackle Matt Sewright.

Tickets, priced at £30 and £60 ringside, are available from the Town Hall Box Office on 0845 111 2900.

Mellon set for Town job

FORMER Baggie Mickie Mellon is to become the new Shrewsbury Town boss.

The Shrews lost their fight to stay in League One under Michael Jackson, who was appointed in February until the end of the season.

After failing to guide them to safety, Jackson will now make way for Mellon to take charge.

The 42-year-old steps back into management after leaving his role as Barnsley assistant boss earlier this year. Mellon's only previous role as a manager was a highly successful one at Fleetwood Town. He played at The Hawthorns between 1993-94.

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Backing Jackett
Wolves' owner is
right behind coach
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Final misery
Albion's last game
reflects poor season
Page 39



email: Chronsport@expressandstar.co.uk

Pics go down to Scholars in final

Rushall Olympic 1 Chasetown 4

CHASETOWN manager Craig Harris was jubilant after he picked up his first senior trophy at the Banks' Stadium and in the process broke a spell of 11 losses in a row against arch-rivals Rushall with a 4-1 win.

The Pics, who had finished just outside the play-off positions in the Northern Premier League, were hot favourites to win the Walsall Senior Cup final against their neighbours, but they were well beaten in boss Neil Kitching's last game in charge.

Harris said winning the cup went some way towards making up for a season which had seen Chasetown finish well short of the play-offs in the division below Rushall.

The opening goal came on 20 minutes for Chasetown after Simon Brown's flag kick was headed in by Joe Halsall.

Nick Wellecomme increased their lead on 62 minutes and 10 minutes later lobbed Gemmell to make it 3-0.

And on 73 minutes, former Rushall midfielder Danny Bragoli produced an equally adept finish. Jamie Spencer produced a fine individual goal a minute from time for what proved a consolation for Rushall.

Westcarr goes in clearout

DEAN SMITH is preparing to rebuild Walsall's forward line once more after making the shock decision to release top scorer Craig Westcarr.

The 29-year-old, who scored 16 goals this season, was the highest-profile departure from the Banks' after the manager met his out-of-contract players.

Fellow forwards Troy Hewitt and Danny Griffiths were also told they will not be offered new deals, along with midfielder Nicky Featherstone, Ben George and James McQuillin.

Negotiations are said to be ongoing with skipper Andy Butler, James Chambers, Ben Purkiss, Andy Taylor, Kieron Morris and Jake Heath.

Experienced centre-back Dean Holden has accepted a player-coach role, while options have been taken up on the contracts of Reece Flanagan and Matt Preston.

Squad surrenders to end wretched season

Spurs 3 Villa 0

A GHASTLY end to a wretched season. It cannot continue.

Randy Lerner would have watched Villa's surrender on TV as he prepared to announce his intention to leave.

His long-awaited statement about the future of the club is due and Villa need to be put out of their misery. It cannot come soon enough.

Sunday's insipid 3-0 defeat at Tottenham saw Villa go through the motions and look like they wanted to be anywhere but White Hart Lane.

Football

The fans made their own statement with a series of chants including 'we want our Villa back' and 'we want Lambert out'. Their message is clear. Lerner has to deliver equal clarity.

The American no longer has the desire to be at Villa and the club are in limbo until he confirms what everyone has been waiting for.

The game itself was meaningless, a minor sub-plot for both clubs with the long-term futures of their respective managers a big-

ger agenda. And defeat meant Villa finished on 38 points, the same amount won by Alex McLeish two years ago which convinced the club to act.

Harry Kane should have opened the scoring instead of nodding straight at Brad Guzan before the keeper denied him at the near post after Villa's static defence watched on.

Spurs were able to cut through Villa with worrying ease and it only took just 14 minutes for them to edge ahead.

Christian Eriksen fed Paulinho and he tapped in after Guzan had saved his initial

effort. A minute later the midfielder should have made it 2-0 but he scuffed his shot well wide after Villa were again exposed.

Tottenham's tempo dropped though and the visitors were able to regroup with Gabby Agbonlahor heading over.

But it was too pedestrian and Spurs wrestled back total control with two goals in three minutes as Villa crumbled.

First Nathan Baker deflected Danny Rose's cross past Guzan on 35 minutes before Agbonlahor handled Sandro's shot in the area and Emmanuel Adebayor buried the penalty.

Hard work lies ahead – Mantom

SAM MANTOM says a big summer awaits Walsall if they are to challenge for promotion.

The Saddlers player of the season is keeping his fingers crossed manager Dean Smith can make the necessary moves which can lead to a sustained play-off push next term.

Mantom is one of several players already signed up for next year but the club are negotiating with six other key men – including influential skipper Andy Butler.

With Smith also planning to make further additions to the squad, Mantom admits he will watch developments with interest.

"I think the gaffer has got to make a few decisions," he said. "Hopefully he can keep most of the squad who are here but I think he knows he has got to add to that."

"We want to be finishing in the play-offs next season and get promoted and that's where everyone wants to be. "Obviously it is a big summer for Walsall."

"Hopefully we can really kick on in pre-season and have a full season where all the results go for us."

VILLA PUT UP FOR SALE AT £200m

RANDY Lerner has put Villa up for sale. The chairman released a statement on Monday to finally end the speculation surrounding his future.

Villa secured their Premier League status last week and Lerner has instructed his bank to sell the club.

The American bought the claret and blues for £62.6m in 2006 and is believed to want around £200m after investing heavily in players and wages since.

He has cut back in the last two years – with many expecting his decision today – and admitted Villa need fresh investment.

He said: "I have engaged Bank of America Merrill Lynch to advise on the sale of Aston Villa."

"Above all, the debt I owe Aston Villa whether as owner, Chairman, custodian or simply as a fan is to put the club first."

Invigorated

"To make good on that debt, I owe it to Villa to move on, and look for fresh, invigorated leadership, if in my heart I feel I can no longer do the job."

"The last several seasons have been week in, week out battles and having now come through this last season unfortunately limping amidst very meaningful injuries and constant sale rumours, I feel further that now is the time for me to look for new ownership and thus new leadership. I have come to know well that fates are fickle in the business of English football."

"And I feel that I have pushed mine well past the limit. I have asked the world of Paul Lambert and Paul Faulkner and they have both delivered selflessly."

"On a personal level it is time for me, like the Shunammite, to dwell among my own and get on with other aspects of my career, following a sale."

"I am appreciative of the support I have received, even in these last years of comparative struggle when criticism was due, and will look on with others – with fingers crossed, for stronger future performance appropriate to our size and heritage."

"On a practical level, the club will continue with its normal operations and plans for the summer."

"I've no doubt that the core staff at both Villa Park and Bodymoor, to whom I owe a massive debt of friendship and loyalty, will continue to guide and protect the club through this period of transition according to their collective sense of professional pride and long term service to Villa – the vast majority having preceded my tenure."



Walking away – Villa chairman Randy Lerner has put the club up for sale following another poor season in the Premier League

Jackett has to share honours

WOLVES boss Kenny Jackett was named joint League One manager of the year with Leyton Orient's Russell Slade.

Head coach Jackett led Wolves to a sensational season in the third tier but, surprisingly.

Liverpool boss Brendan Rodgers was crowned LMA Manager of the Year.

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